BERSERK

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27

三浦建太郎 KENTARO MIURA

ベルセルク

BERSERK ㉗

BY

KENTARO MIURA

三浦建太郎

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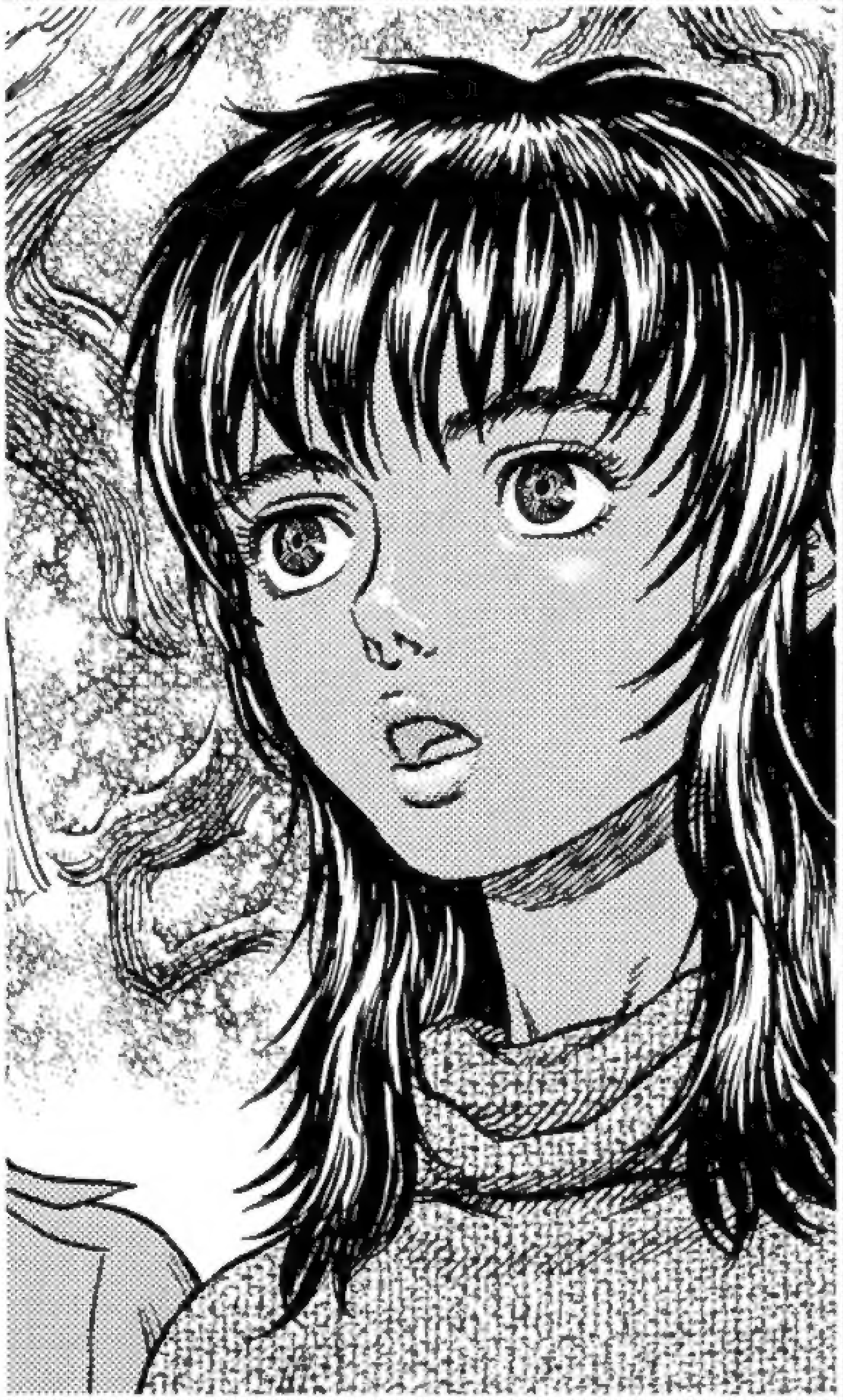
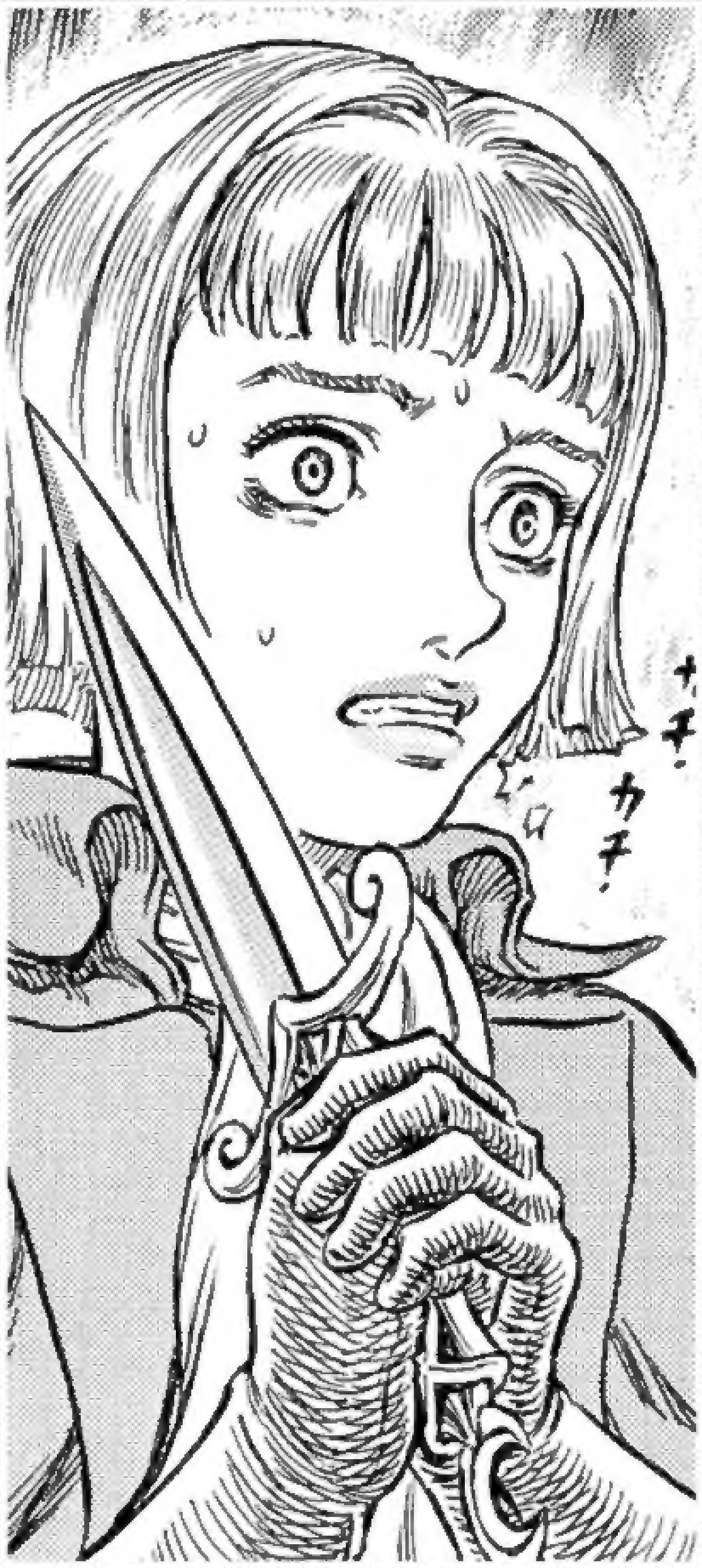


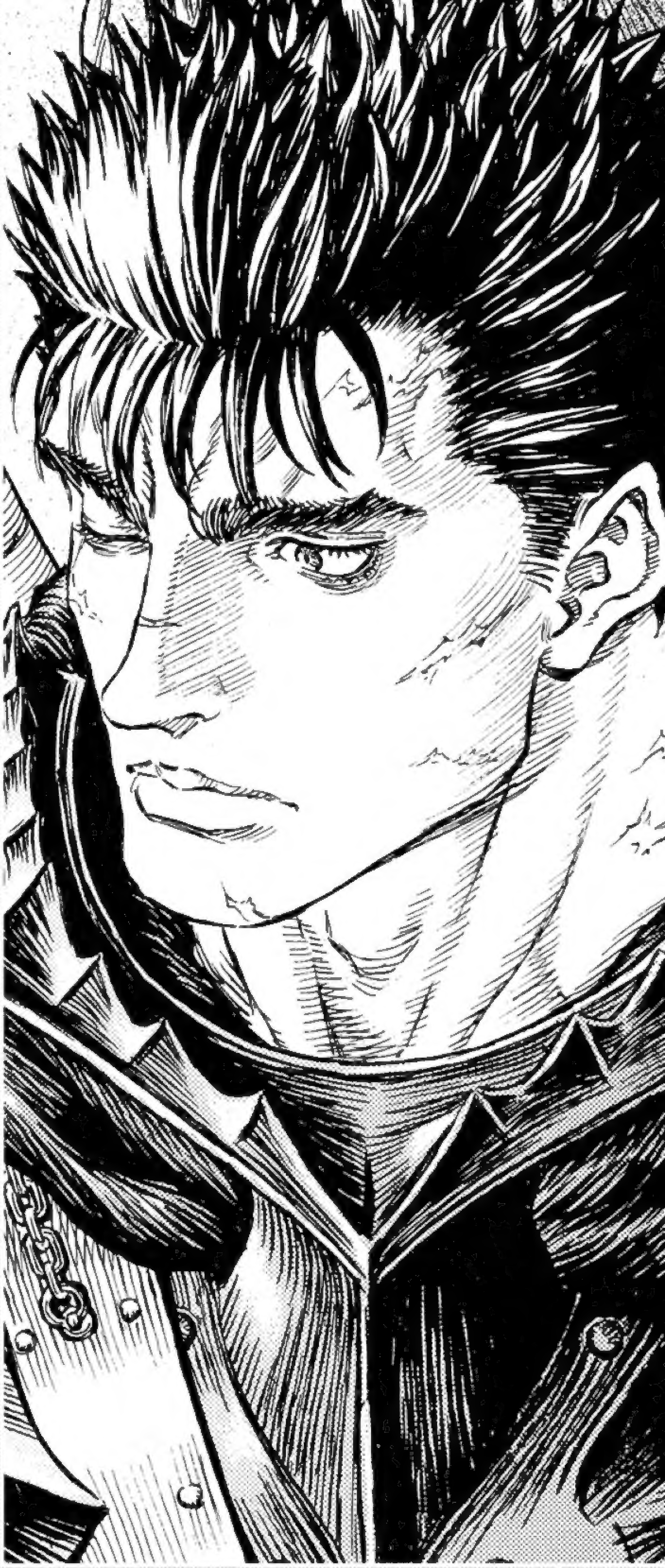
キャスカ Casca

Former unit commander of the Band of the Hawk—mentally regressed from her experience in the Eclipse. She now neither speaks nor conveys any feelings. Her Brand, which reacts to evil, is thinly shielded by Flora's talisman.



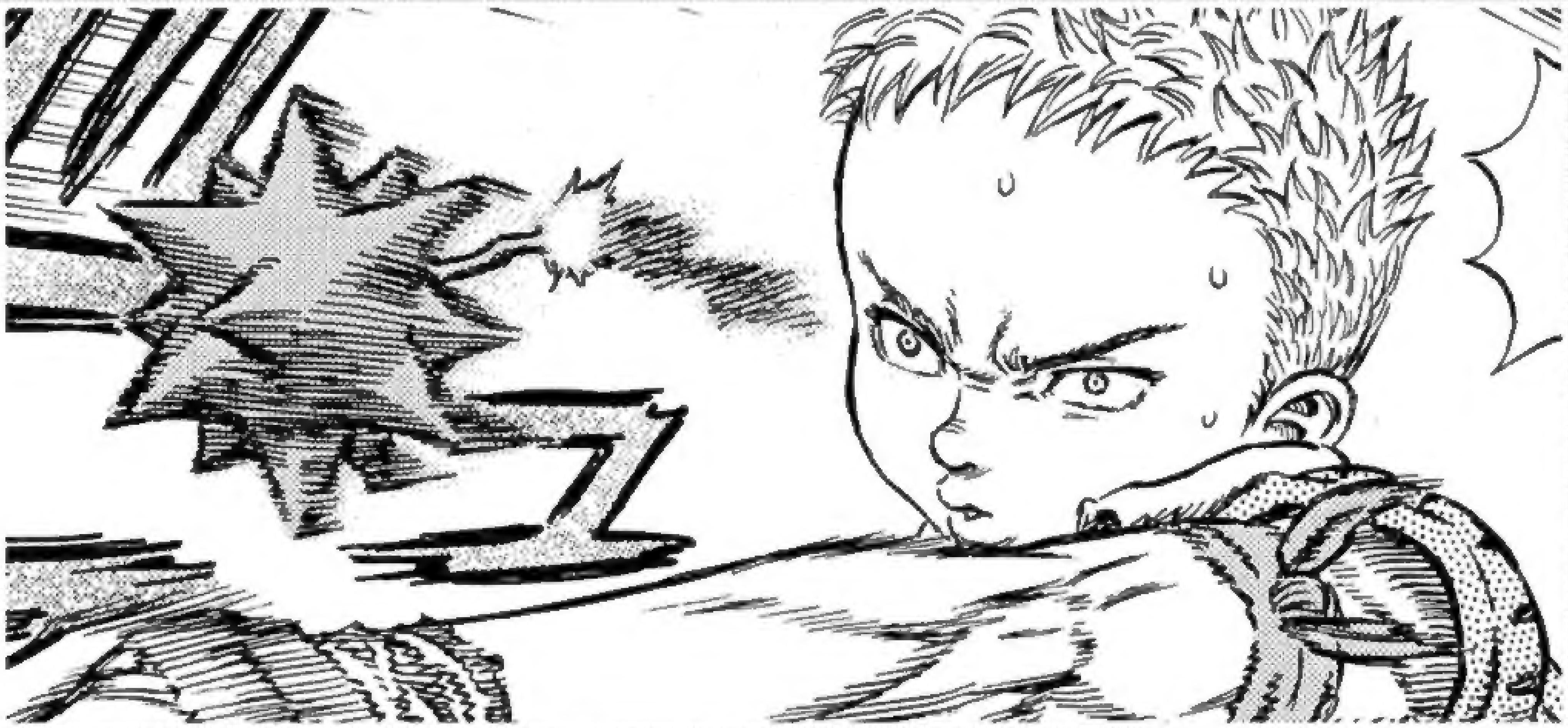
ファルネーゼ
Farnese

Former commander of the Holy See's Holy Iron Chain Knights and daughter of the Vandimion family, one of influential status and wealth in the religious sphere. She seeks to learn from Guts her own means of survival and about the reality of the world.



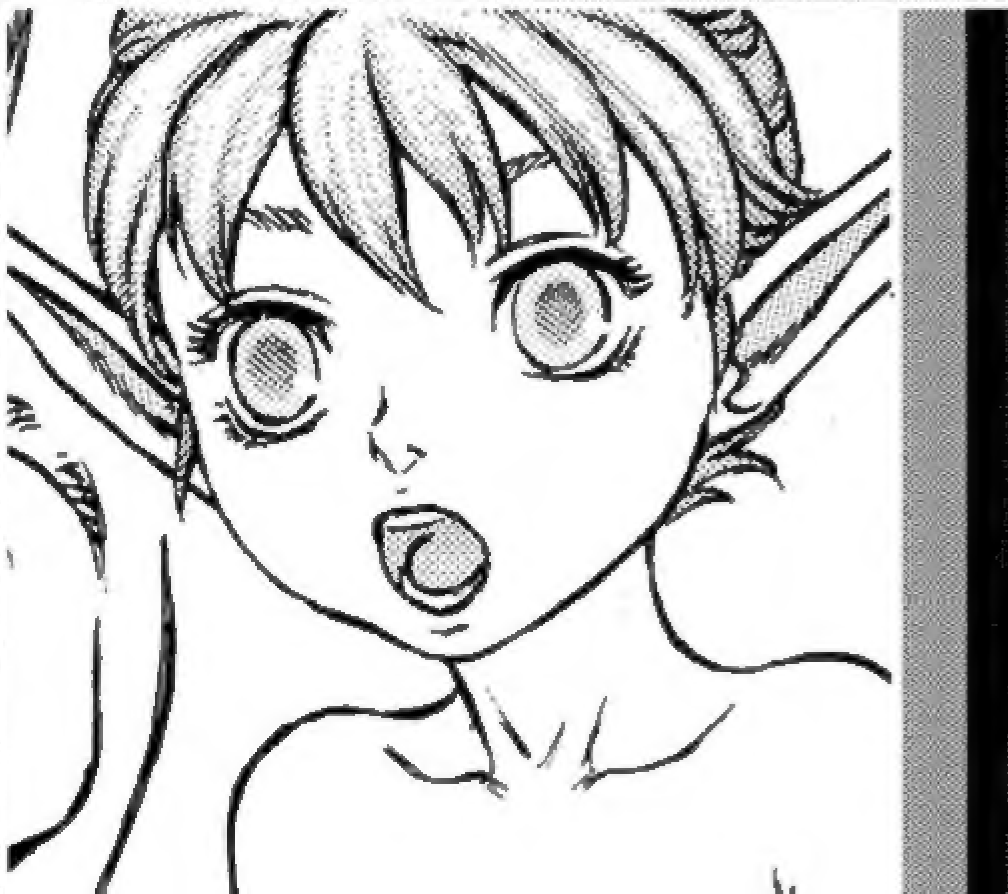
ガッツ Guts

The Black Swordsman. He exists in the Interstice, his soul constantly torn between protecting Casca and challenging Griffith. That struggle is nothing short of sublime.



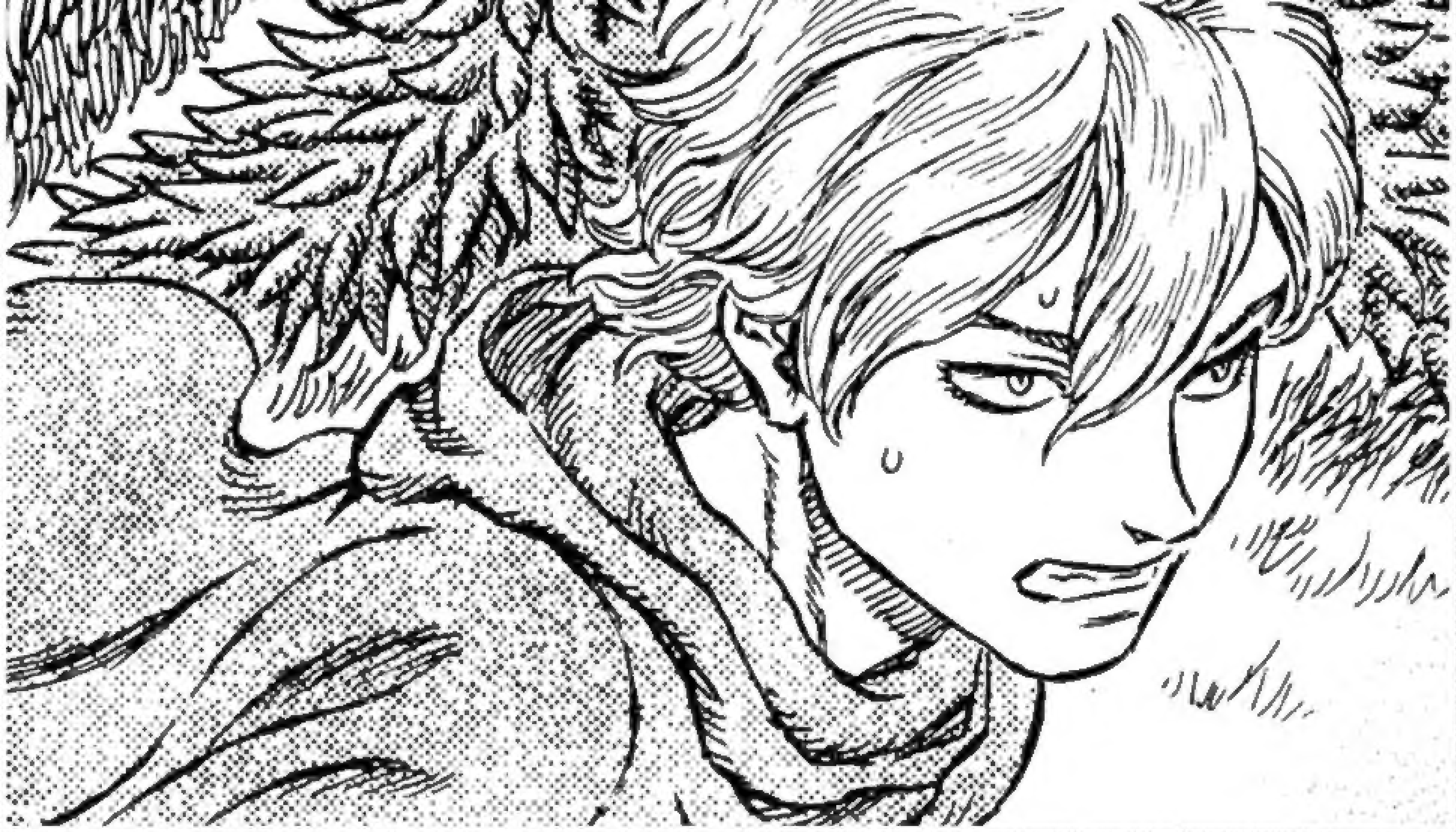
イシドロ Isidro

Dreams of being the "ultimate swordsman," but his actual talent, not up to snuff, repeatedly endangers him. Nevertheless, the boy endeavors toward his dream. He is currently equipped with a fetish granted the protection of fire elementals.



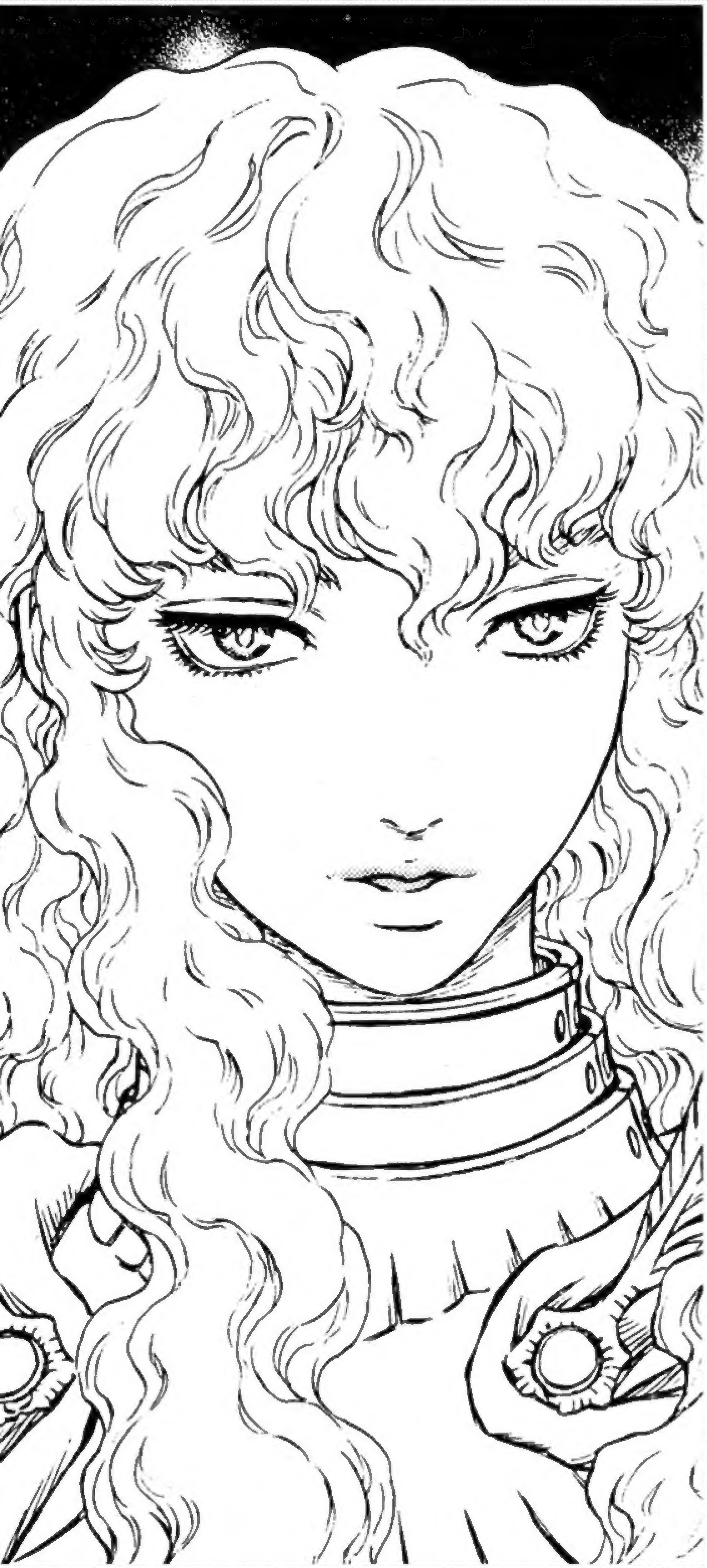
パック Puck

An elf who's long been with Guts on his journeys. His dust has the power to heal wounds. Also, he recently confirmed that he's a wind spirit, one of the four types of elementals.



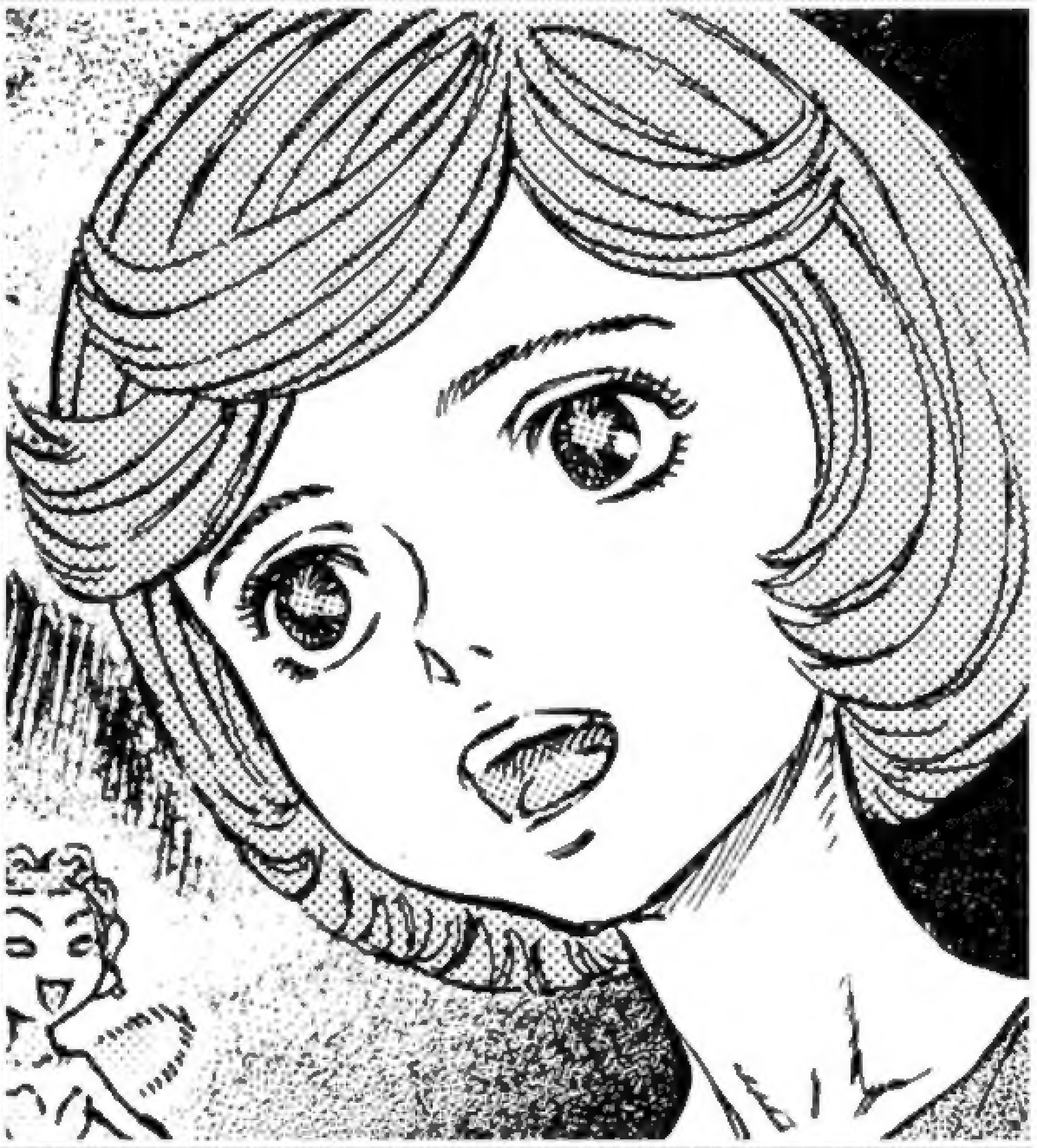
セルピコ Serpico

Attendant of Farnese, and actually her brother; however, she is not aware of the blood relationship. He is skilled in fighting and is currently clad in a fetish granted the protection of wind elementals.



シールケ Schierke

Disciple of Flora, witch of the Spirit Tree mansion. She supports Guts and the others through her use of magic; however, among her spells are some beyond her mastery, which occasionally place her in great peril as she tries to aid her allies.

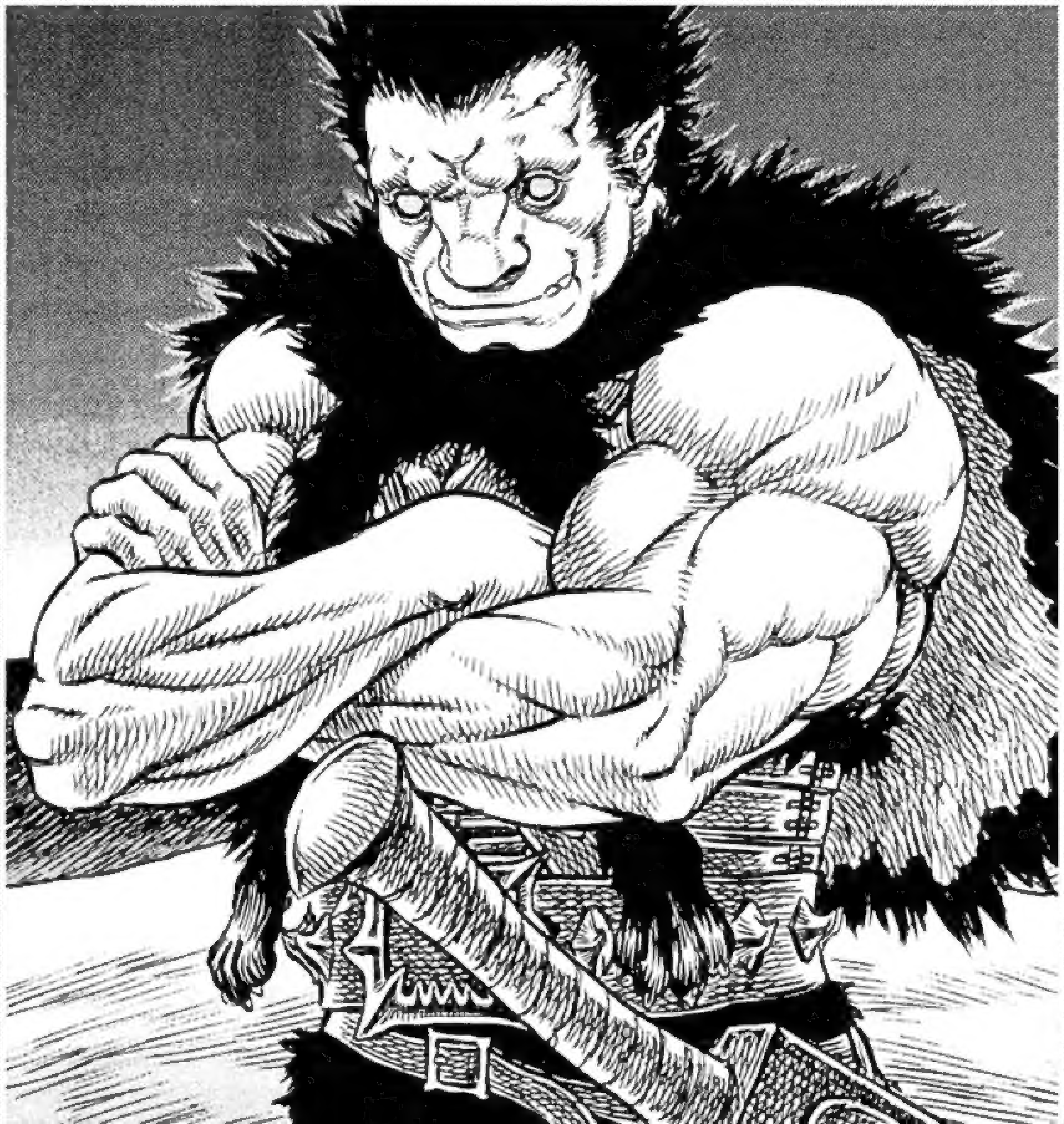


グリフィス Griffith

Through the Eclipse of the Crimson Behelit, he was reborn as Femto of the Godhand. Later he was incarnated in the imitation Eclipse catalyzed by the egg-shaped apostle, thus returning to the physical world, in which he became the "absolute," without equal.

ゾッド Zodd

Nosferatu Zodd, the apostle with two names. He was unrivaled in his thirst for battle against the strong. But, defeated by Griffith, he is now part of the new Band of the Hawk.



ベルセルク 27

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FALCONIA CHAPTER

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火竜
FIRE DRAGON

ガチ
*KLAK
ガチ
*KLAK
ルロ
*GROLLLL
WH...
WHAT'S GOIN' ON WITH GUTS...?
...
I CAN'T.
AT MY LEVEL, THE FORCE OF HIS OD IS TOO INTENSE FOR THOUGHT TRANSFERENCE TO GET THROUGH.

WELL DONE, BLACK SWORDSMAN!!
OUR ARCH-ENEMY!!
*HURL
NOW TASTE THE POWER...
...OF MY STRIKE!!

*WHOOM

*GONNG
WHAT ...?

*FX: HYNNN

ARGHH!
*VSSSSSH
*DOSH
YEAH!
BUT...
*FX: JSSH JSSH
*FX: FFT FFT
*ROWR

MAGNIFICENT...!!
YOU ARE THE VICTOR!!
THE RUMORS LIED NOT...!!
NO, YOU'RE A SUPERB WARRIOR, AND YOU EXCEED THEM!!
*VWOOSH
BUT MY MISSION LIES AHEAD...
FOR MY MASTER.
*WHOM
AS AN APOSTLE OF THE HAWK OF LIGHT...
...I SHALL FINISH YOU!!!

D-
D-RA...
DORAE-
MON..
ドオオオ
*OHHHHNN
DRAGON!
I SHALL USE THIS POWER GRANTED TO ME AS AN APOSTLE...
...AND LAY LOW THE BLACK SWORDS-MAN!!!

*HRRRL
*WHOMM
*DSSH

FULL FORCE!
DAMN...!
IM... IMPOSSIBLE...!!
HE STOPPED IT...?!
*STRAIN
*STRAIN
AN APOSTLE'S ATTACK...?
*FX: VSSSH
A HUMAN?!
*KRSSH
*KRSSH
*ZHFF

ボグッ!!
BOK
SWAY
I WON'T HAVE IT!!
LUNGE
CHOK

*WRONK
*ZHOK
GUTS ...!
*FX: BRORRR
MY SKIN OF CORUNDUM, STRONGER THAN EVEN STEEL...
...HAS BEEN CRACKED?!
IT'S NOT POSSIBLE!!
*FX: CLATA

*RORLLL
ゴキ
ゴキ
*FX: CHOK CHOK
*FX: SQULCH
*FX: VASSH
*HRRRN
*KRANK
*SHNK

WH-WHOA... WEREN'T HIS ARM AND LEG JUST FACIN' THE WRONG WAY?
IT IS THE ARMOR'S POWER.
UGH, LOVELY.
WOOF
THE ARMOR IS REINFORCING HIS BROKEN LIMBS...
...BY *PIERCING* THROUGH HIS FLESH...
...AND *BITING* INTO HIS BONES.
I HEARD THE PREVIOUS OWNER OF THE ARMOR WAS SIMILARLY DEVOURED BY ITS STEEL TEETH...
...AS HE CONTINUED FIGHTING, UNTIL THE LAST OF HIS BLOOD GUSHED FORTH FROM WHERE HIS BONES WERE BROKEN.

WHA --?
WHY'D YOU PUT SOMETHIN' LIKE THAT ON GUTS WHEN HE'S NEAR DEAD ANYWAY?!
I-IT WAS A NOBLE SACRIFICE SO HIS COMPANIONS COULD LIVE!
IN THAT CASE, LET'S SCRAM, SO HIS DEATH'S NOT IN VAIN...
...
WHAT DO I DO...?
C'MON! LET'S FLEE WHILE HE'S DISTRACTING!
*WHAP WHAP
IT'S MY FAULT... AGAIN...
MISTRESS, WHY?!
WHY A THING LIKE THAT...?!
WHAT...
...MUST I DO?
YOU WILL DEAL WITH IT.

IT IS SOMETHING THAT ONLY YOU, BEING A WITCH, CAN DO.
MISTRESS !!
BUT I...
...AM STILL A NOVICE.
I AM UPSET...
...AND MY MAGIC...
YOU NOW APPRECIATE YOUR INEXPERIENCE AND THE DANGER OF DROWNING IN POWER...
FOR THIS VERY REASON, IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR YOU.

THIS SWORDSMAN, LOST IN THE TURBULENCE OF POWER...
YOU WILL SHOW HIM THE WAY.

THE DEPTHS OF HELLFIRE

業火の底

BERSERK

*SHLF
シュル。
H...
HEY, WHAT'RE YOU GONNA DO?
I AM GOING TO BRING BACK GUTS!
WATCH MY BACK!
LET HIM BE. YOU'LL JUST GET IN TROUBLE AGAIN...
WATCH OVER...?
HEY!
SHEESH

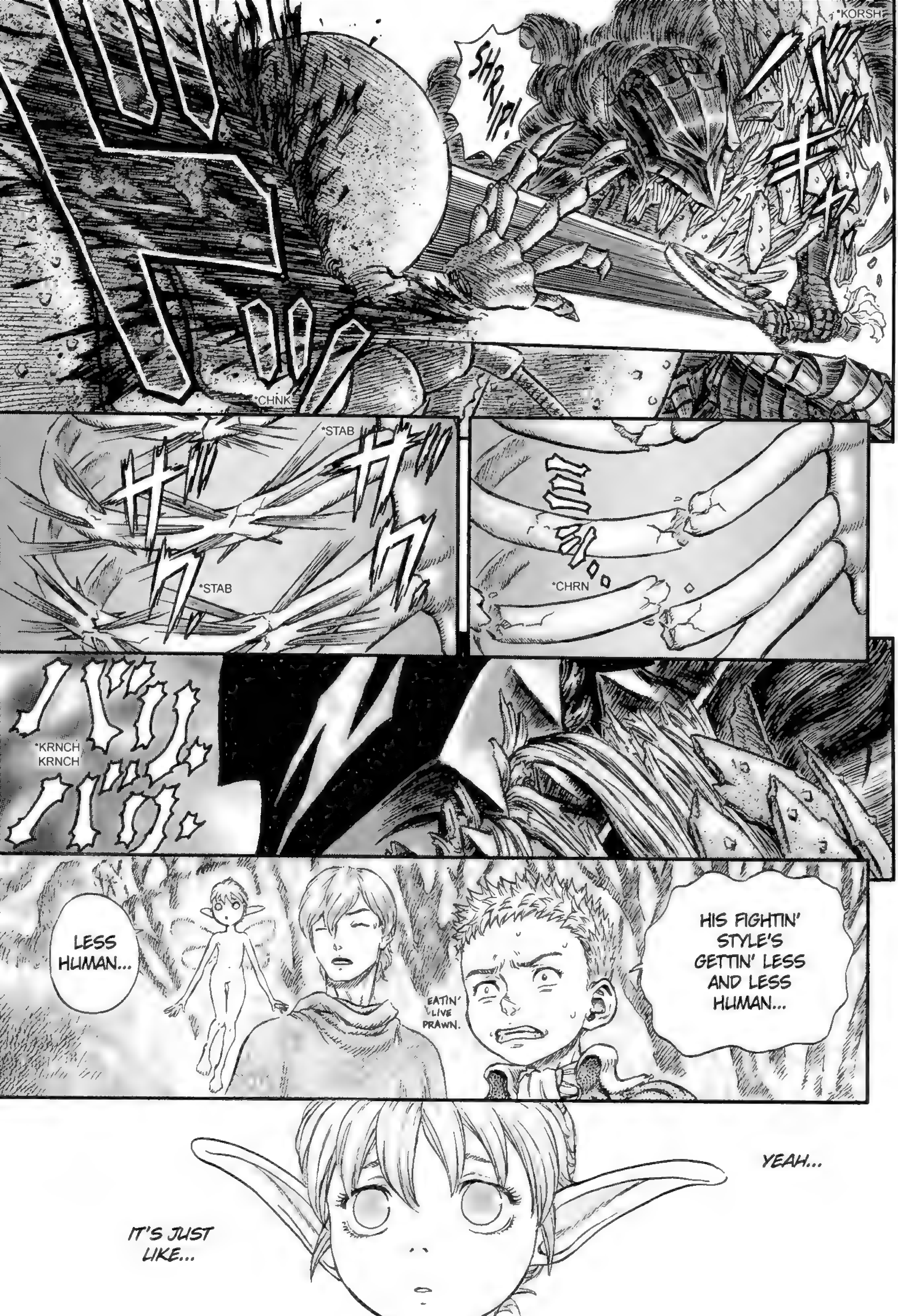
I WILL TRY, MISTRESS.
*HHSSS
スゥゥゥ。
I WILL...
...REACH HIM...!!
*FX RRLLL
ルルル
ゴオオオオ。。
*BROARRRRR

UNBELIEVABLE!!
TO WITHSTAND *TWO* ATTACKS FROM MY TRUE APOSTLE FORM...
...AND EVEN *WOUND* ME?!
WHAT THE *HELL* ARE YOU...?!
*GCHAK
SIR FIRE DRAGON.
*GCHAK
LET US JOIN IN.
WE HAD NO LUCK HUNTIN' DOWN THAT WITCH, AND NOW WE'RE *REALLY* BORED.
YOU SEEM TO BE HAVIN' A HARD TIME.
YOU GRUNTS...
*FX: GZHH GZHH
*FX: GZHH GZHH
HEY, IF IT AIN'T ONE ON ONE ANYMORE, AS AN APOSTLE...
...YOU SHOULDN'T REALLY MIND...

SHOUL--!
OGH...
*SHHHRAP
*LUNGE
N-NO FAIR!
THEY WERE TRANS-FORMIN' ...!

ZOOOSH
BSSSH
YOU SON OF A BITCH !!
FWSSS
WHOCK

THIS FEELING.
SHHHRIII
I MUST'VE BROKEN FOUR OR FIVE RIBS.
*FX: GISSH
*FX: KRRRRSH
*KRRSH
*FX: YANK
WHAT...?
*STAGGER


*KORSH
SHRIIIP!
*CHNK
*CHRN
*STAB
*STAB
*KRNCH KRNCH
HIS FIGHTIN' STYLE'S GETTIN' LESS AND LESS HUMAN...
EATIN' LIVE PRAWN.
LESS HUMAN...
YEAH...
IT'S JUST LIKE...

GEHE HEH
THERE'S SOME...
...TASTY MORSELS OVER HERE TOO!
*SNAP
JUST LIKE...
IF IT COMES DOWN TO IT, WE CAN RUN AND TAKE SCHIERKE WITH US!
*ZHA
WON'T SHE WAKE UP IF WE TAP THE WAND?
SCHIERKE...

THESE ...
...FLAMES ...
ANGER.
THIS IS THE HATEFUL TURBULENCE THAT FLOWS DEEP WITHIN THE ARMOR.
WILL I MAKE IT IN TIME?
IF A TYPICAL HUMAN BEING WERE SIMILARLY CONSUMED, THEIR EGO WOULD SHATTER...

ゴ゛
ゴ゛
ゴ゛
*GOHHHHHH
!
*GOHHHHHH
ゴ゛
ゴ゛
ゴ゛
THAT'S --!!
*RORRRRRR

THAT'S THE IMAGE GUTS PROJECTS WHEN HE'S CLAD IN THE OD OF THE ARMOR.
GUTS IS INSIDE IT...
CAN I *DO* THIS?! CAN I RESCUE HIM FROM SUCH TURBULENT RAGE...?
IF I'M NOT CAREFUL, I'LL BE SWEPT AWAY, TOO...
*FWOHH
!
THERE IS NO TIME TO HESITATE.

…オオオオワ!!
*RORRRRRR

LIGHTS...
......
FRAGMENTS OF GUTS' MEMORIES...?

THEY ARE...
...JUST LIKE LAMP-LIGHTS.
*FX: ZMZMZMZM
?!
DARKNESS ...?!
*FWOOSH

NOOO!
WHAT ?!
HORRIBLE...
BEING ENGULFED ...
MISTRESS ...!!

!
THAT'S...
...MY MISTRESS' ...

炎の旅立ち
DEPARTURE OF FLAME

WHAT'S THIS...?
I SEE.
THIS IS *GUTS'* *EGO.*
MY MISTRESS' TALISMAN WAS GUARDING...
...HIS EGO AGAINST COLLAPSE.

HATE.
ANGER.
MALICE.
!
NO!
YOU MUSTN'T YIELD TO THE FLOW!
...YI...
...ELD..?
YES.
YOU'LL CEASE TO BE YOURSELF.
YOU'LL BE TAKEN INTO THIS DOMAIN.
REMEMBER!
REMEMBER WHO YOU ARE!
IT DOESN'T...
...MATTER...
KILL
RUIN

MURDER WAR
FOE APOSTLE
FOE FRIEND
GRIFFITH
OF COURSE IT MATTERS!
REMEMBER!
IT'S HOT...
THE REASON YOU JOURNEY...
THE REASON YOU'RE FIGHTING NOW!
A HUMAN SOUL WOULDN'T BECOME THIS TATTERED OVER SOMETHING THAT DOESN'T MATTER!

JOURNEY...
FIGHT...
REASON...
...
*FX: FWMM
WHAT'S...
...THAT?...?

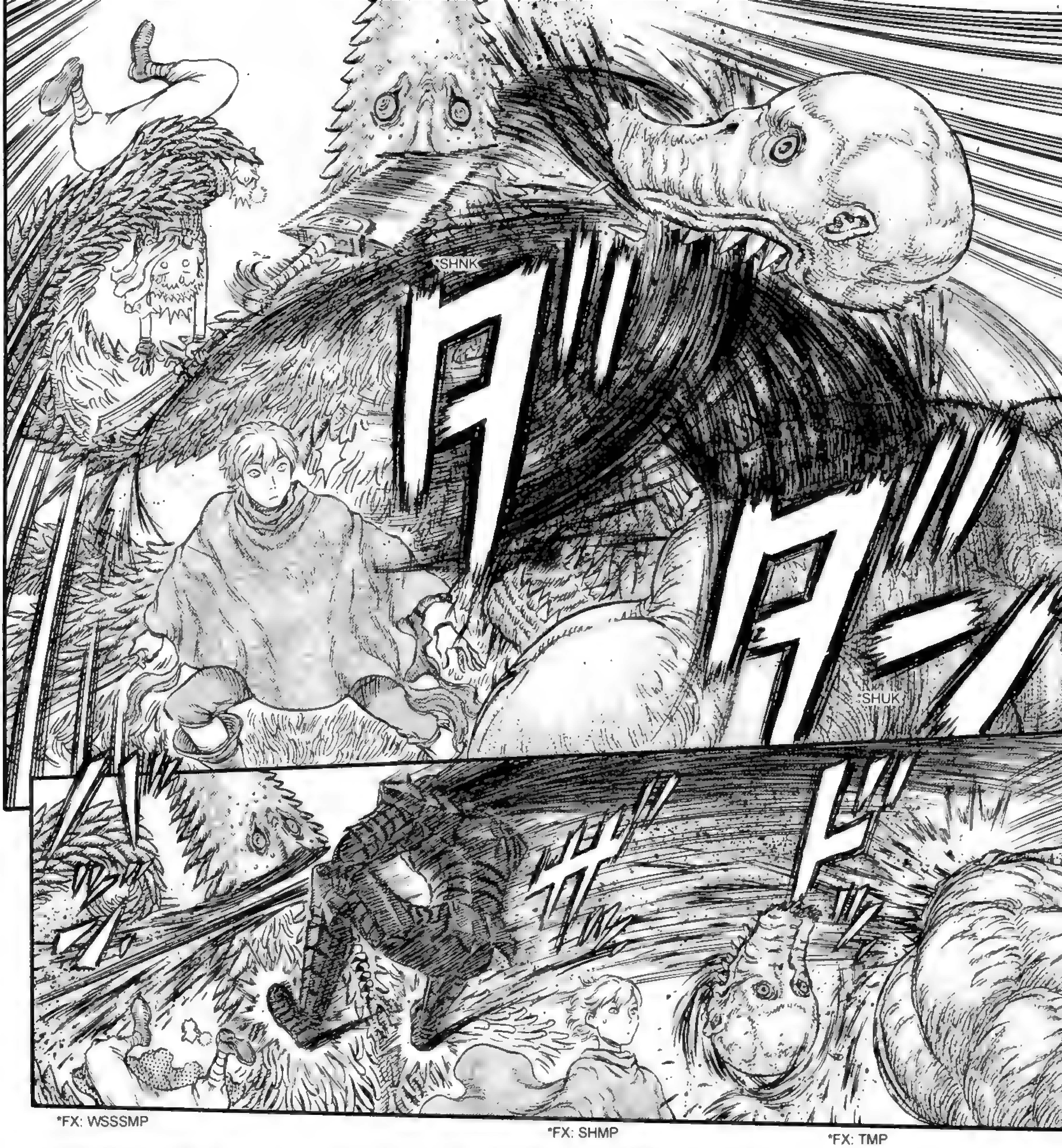
WHO...
...IS THAT...?
I KNOW HER...
STOP...
LEAVE...
...HER ALONE...
REMEMBER!
HER NAME IS **CASCA.**
CAS...
...CA...
...

YOUR NAME...
...IS... ...GUTS.
THE BRANDED SWORDSMAN...
...GUTS.
THE PROTECTOR OF CASCA...
...THE BRANDED GIRL.

*EEEEK
RECEIVE MY...
...FIRE.
コォォオオ
*OHMMM

ドッ
*DOOM
ギュン
*FWOOSH

WHAT ?!
DAMN STAR-FISH! SEA LIFE DON'T WANDER THE FOREST!
PRAWNS EITHER!



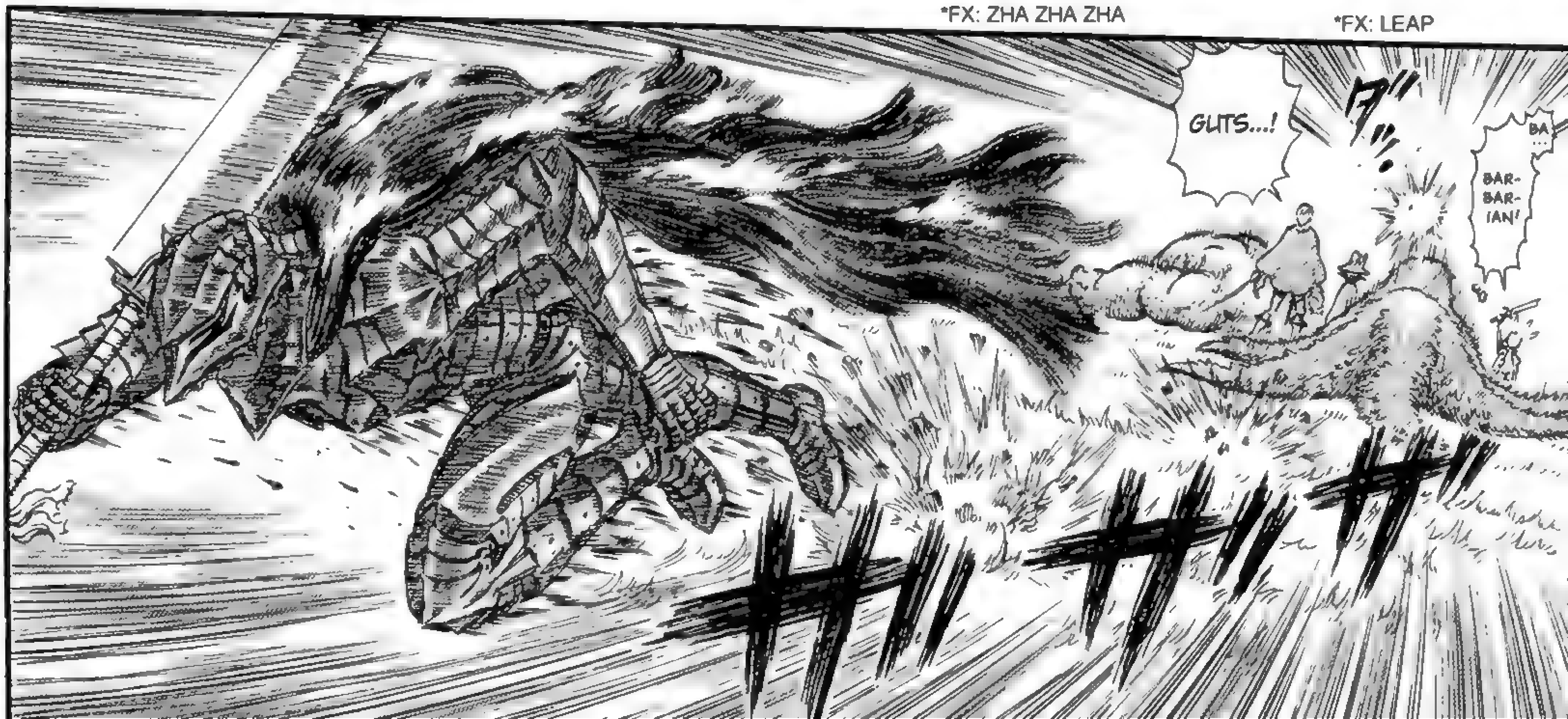
*FX: WSSSMP

*FX: SHMP

*FX: TMP

*FX: ZHA ZHA ZHA

*FX: LEAP


BA BARBARIAN!
GUTS...!

NO, CASCA!! IT'S DANGEROUS...
OOOO
ザッ ザッ ザッ ザッ
*ZHF ZHF ZHF ZHF
ズル!!
*ZHLFF
AU...
AIIEEEE!

ブチ。
*SHRRRIP
ブヂ。
*SHRRRIP
ドチャ。
*CHLLK
フウゥゥゥ
*FX: HHHHH
ザ
*FX: STAND
A...
ARE YOU...?
ガチン
*FX: GCHIK
ガチャ ガチャ
*FX: CHAK CHAK
ズヴヴ
*FX: ZZVVVV
!

HOW AWFUL...
GUTS...
SQUEEZE
ギュ
OOOOO

DOWAHHH!!
YOU WON'T ESCAPE!!
*FX: ZHA
...!
IT'S ALL RIGHT.
*DSSSH
WE'RE GONNA BURRRN!!
*OHMMMM

*FWOOOSH

*FX: SHIMMER

*FX: RORRRRR

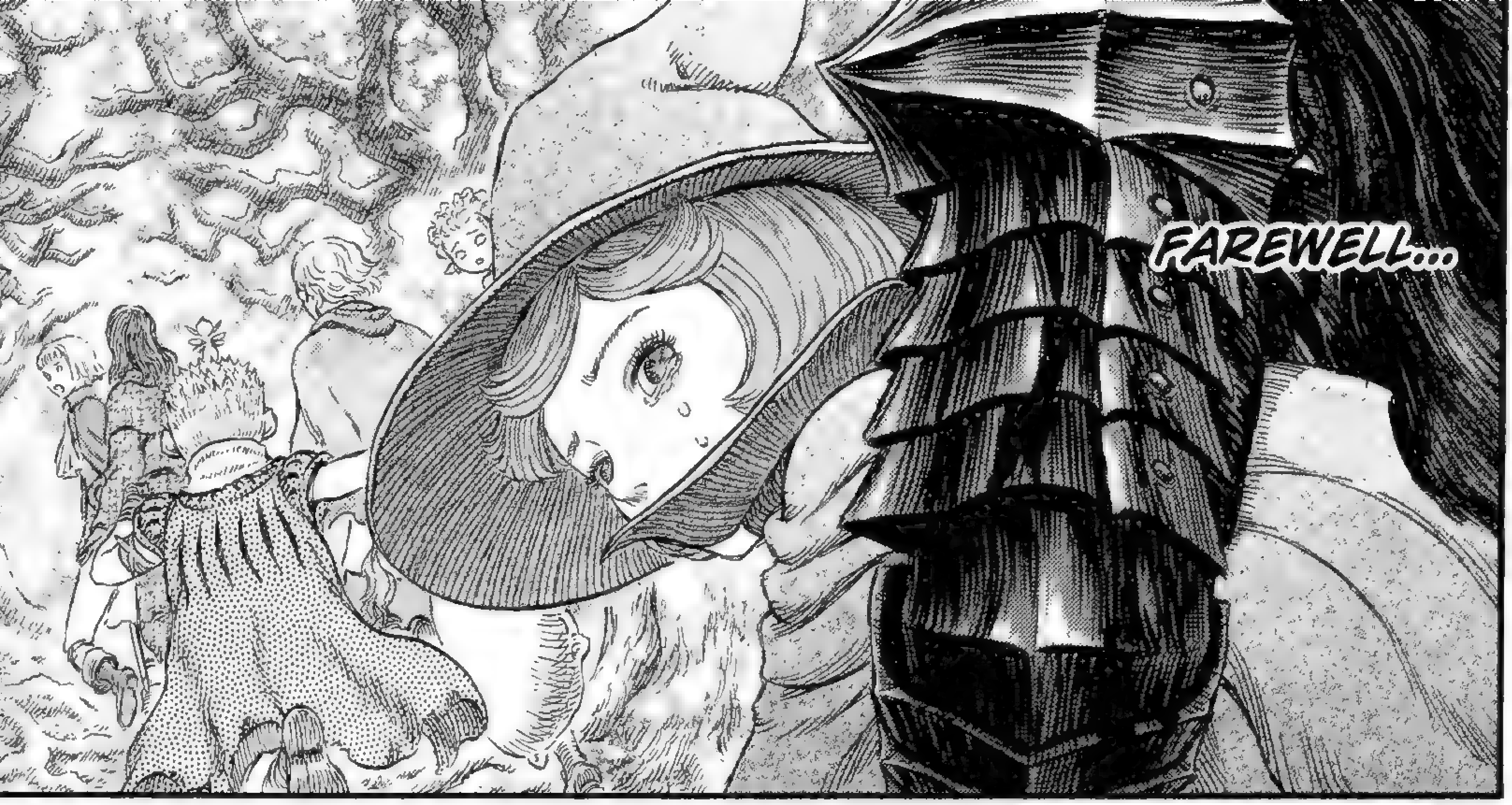
THAT'S ...
...A WALL OF FLAME ?!
!
MISTRESS ...!!

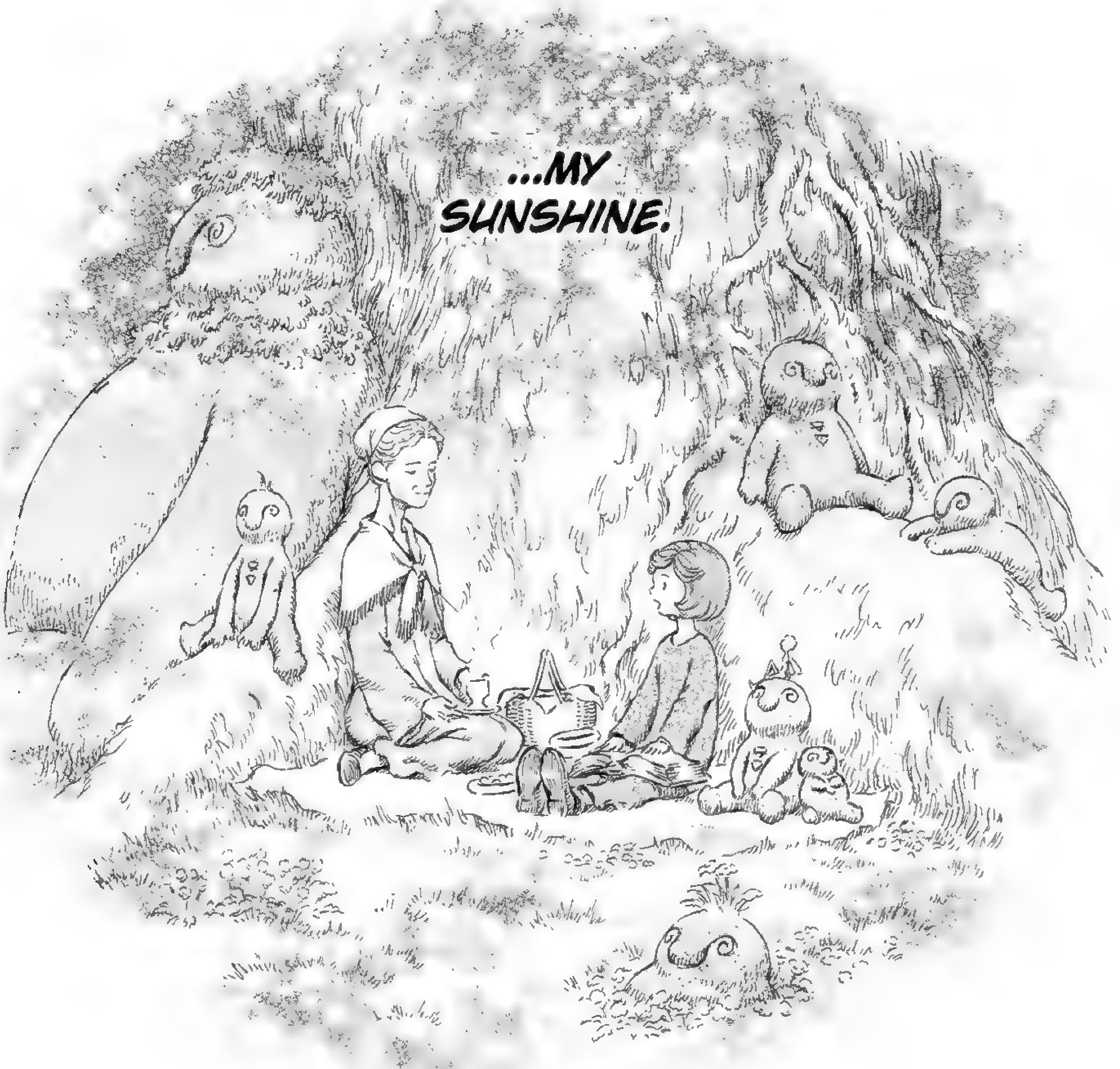
MIS-TRESS!!
HUGE!
AND YOUNG!
*ZHFF
YOU HAVE DONE WELL, SCHIERKE.
NOW GO.
THIS FOREST WILL NOT LAST MUCH LONGER.
ONCE THE SPIRIT TREE BURNS DOWN...
...THIS DOMAIN WILL LIKELY CLOSE.
NO...
I WON'T...
I...
THIS PLACE IS AN INTERSTICE WHERE TIME LINGERS FOR THE OLD.
THIS TREE AND I HAVE BOTH LIVED QUITE LONG.
HOWEVER PLEASANT THE SUNSHINE, THE YOUNG MUST NOT DWELL HERE FOREVER.

THE TIME HAS COME TO LEAVE THE NEST.
GO FORTH FROM HERE AND FIND YOUR OWN PATH...
...MY DEAREST STUDENT.
THE DAYS I SPENT WITH YOU WERE SHORT...
...BUT IN ALL MY LONG LIFE, THEY WERE THE MOST SERENE.
THANK YOU.
MISTRESS ...!!

*KRRAK
HEY!
STUPID!
*DOOOSH
*VSSSH
*SHHUP
LET'S GO!
WAIT!
BLACK SWORDS-MAN!!
WHAT IS THIS FLAME…
…THAT I, A FIRE DRAGON, CANNOT MANIPULATE ?!
MY EXISTENTIAL FORM WILL MERELY CHANGE.
WE CAN MEET AGAIN IN YOUR DREAMS.

WHETHER YOU GRASP THE FATE BEFORE YOU IS UP TO YOU.
MAY YOUR GOING FORTH BE BLESSED...
...SWEET, BELOVED CHILD.


FAREWELL...


...MY SUNSHINE.

DEMON CITY

魔都

BERSERK

*A-AWW
*AWWW
ア゛ー…
*AWWW
ア゛ー…
*AWWW
ア゛ー…

THE ROYAL CAPITAL, WINDHAM

*GREEE
ギィィ…
ギィ…
THAT'S IT.
YOU ARE THE RESISTANCE MOVEMENT?
INDEED.
THANKS TO THE FOG, WE MANAGED TO SLIP INTO THE CITY SAFELY.

*FX: KREEE

ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE MYSELF.
I AM **LABAN,** LEADER OF MIDLAND'S **ARKLOW KNIGHTS.**
OHH...
SIR LABAN.
THAT THE LEADER HIMSELF WOULD COME TO US...
WELL, WE ARE GRATEFUL.
WE WERE DESPAIRING THAT WE WERE ALONE AND UNAIDED.
AS A MILITARY MAN, I ADMIRE THE WORK YOU ALL HAVE DONE THUS FAR.
NO... WE ARE A RESISTANCE MOVEMENT IN NAME ONLY.
WE MERELY MANAGE TO RUN ABOUT LIKE MOLES BENEATH THE GROUND...
CURRENTLY, WINDHAM DOES NOT EVEN SEEM OF THIS WORLD.
IT HAS BEEN REDUCED TO A DREADFUL DEMON CITY.

EVERYWHERE YOU GO...
CORPSES.
CORPSES!
CORPSES!!
EVERY TOWER THROUGHOUT WINDHAM...
EVERY PLAZA...
CHURCH...

EVERY PLACE IS INUNDATED WITH THE CORPSES OF OUR PEOPLE!!
IT DOES NOT EVEN LOOK LIKE REALITY...
AS IF THAT NECROPOLIS SAID TO SLEEP BENEATH THE TOWER OF REBIRTH...
...HAD INSTEAD RISEN TO THE SURFACE.
THE MEN OF WINDHAM WHO RESISTED WERE KILLED, AND THOSE ARRESTED, REGARDLESS OF SOCIAL STATUS, WERE SENT TO THE BATTLEFIELD AS WAR SLAVES.
THE WOMEN WERE MARCHED INTO THE CASTLE...
...APPARENTLY TO BE USED IN SOME BIZARRE KUSHAN RITUAL. WHETHER THEY LIVE STILL IS UNKNOWN...
THOSE LEFT ARE THE POWERLESS--THE ELDERLY AND CHILDREN.
THAT'S HORRENDOUS...
BUT ONE PIECE OF NEWS IS GOOD...

PRINCESS CHARLOTTE IS ALIVE.
SHE IS IMPRISONED IN THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF THE TOWER OF REBIRTH.
OHH ...!
IS THAT TRUE?!
IT IS CERTAIN. WE LOST MANY LIVES TO LEARN THIS TRUTH.
IF THE PRINCESS IS SAFE ...!!
IF THE ROYAL BLOODLINE IS UNSEVERED, THERE'S STILL HOPE!
MIDLAND MIGHT BE SAVED FROM THE BRINK OF DOWNFALL!
CERTAINLY, IF THAT IS TRUE, WE MAY BE ABLE TO REGAIN GOVERNANCE OVER THE NOBLES...
...WHO, IN THEIR OWN INTERESTS, BOUND THEMSELVES TO THE ALLIED NATIONS.
SIR LABAN...
...WE ARE IN A STATE OF ISOLATION HERE AND KNOW NEARLY NOTHING OF WHAT GOES ON OUTSIDE...
...SO I WISH TO ASK ABOUT A RUMOR.

WHERE IS...
...THE HAWK?
!
YOU'RE...
DZASSSH
GYAHHH!
?!
WHAT ?!
OH!
OH NO, IT'S THEM!!

ガブッ
*OMF
ガブッ
*OMF
うわあぁ
*AGGHHH
WH- WHAT'S--
THIS WAY, SIR LABAN!!
*FX FWOP
IGH!
*CHOMP
WHAT IS THAT MONSTER ...?!
KUSHAN SORCERY!!

IT MAY BE DIFFICULT TO BELIEVE, BUT IT IS ALSO THE ONLY EXPLANATION ...!!
THE KUSHAN USE SORCERY...
...TO MANIPULATE HALF-BEAST, HALF-MAN MONSTERS LIKE THAT ONE!!
I SAID IT NOT AS METAPHOR OR EXAGGERATION!! WINDHAM...
...HAS BECOME A DEMON CITY WHERE BIZARRE BEASTS RUN RAMPANT!!!
A DEMON CITY.
TH-THIS SHOULD BE FAR ENOUGH FOR NOW...

UNBELIEVABLE. NEVER MIND THAT I JUST SAW IT WITH MY OWN EYES...
OUR SENTIMENTS EXACTLY.
THE DAY CAME WHEN THIS FOG COVERED THE CITY...
...AND AS THOUGH SUMMONED BY IT, THESE HORRORS BEGAN TO PROWL THE STREETS.
THE CITIZENS FEAR THEM, CONFINE THEMSELVES TO THEIR HOMES, AND COWER.
EVERYONE SAYS THE SAME...
THAT THIS NO LONGER SEEMS REAL, LIKE WE HAVE WANDERED INTO A NIGHTMARE...
ドム。
!
ズン
INDEED...

THIS IS NO...
...REALISTIC THEATER OF WAR.

*FX: PLOOSH
*ZHLF
W-WE'RE TRAPPED ...!!
*FX: SHM
*FX: SHHHHH
*FX: BLACH
*DOOSH
*FX: SHM SHH SHM
*FX: TNK TNK TNK TNK

?!
ドシャアア
*THUDDD
ARROWS ...?!
FROM WHERE ...?!
*FX BDADUMP BDADUMP
ガガガガ。ガガ
ウオオ。
*AOOORN

!
WHO'S ...?!
*GYNNN
*THWIIK
*BDOOOOSH
WAHHH!
YEE!
*FX: CLOP CLOP CLOP

*CLOP
カッ
*CLOP
カッ
CITIZENS OF WINDHAM.
WAIT PATIENTLY.

IN DUE COURSE WILL THE MIASMA COVERING THE CITY BE SWEPT CLEAN.
A STRONG WIND WILL BLOW.
WHO ARE YOU...?
AS I AM CHARGED WITH A MISSION...
...I MUST NOW GO.
HIDE AND MAKE READY...
...FOR THE TEMPEST THE HAWK BRINGS.
WH...
WHAT DID HE...?!
THE HAWK...!!!

*FX: BDADUMP BDADUMP

I FEEL THEM.
SEVERAL INHUMAN PRESENCES...
...TRESPASSING IN MY DOMAIN.
IT'S FUTILE.
WITHIN THIS FOG...
...ALL LIES IN THE PALM OF MY HAND.
BUT COME.
COME TO MY DEMON CASTLE...
...VANGUARD OF THE HAWK.

DREAD EMPEROR

恐帝

DID I OVER-ESTIMATE A BIT...
...THE POWERS OF *THE BAKIRAKA CLAN?*
I AM AT A LOSS TO RESPOND.

I *TOO* HAD HIGH HOPES FOR THE TENACITY ON WHICH YOU GAMBLED THE RESTORATION OF YOUR CLAN...
...BUT WITH YOUR OPPONENT BEING THE HAWK OF ORACLE, IT CANNOT BE HELPED.
HENCEFORTH, REPORT ONLY ON THE HAWK'S LOCATION AND MOVEMENTS, AS NECESSARY.
I SHALL LEAVE THE DUTY OF SEIZING HIM TO MY OWN ARMY.
BUT...
ENOUGH. GO NOW.
YES, SIRE...!

WE CONTINUE TO FALL SHORT...
I FEEL ASHAMED, YOUNG MASTER.
DON'T DWELL ON IT. MY OWN INEXPERIENCE WAS AT PLAY AS WELL.
THIS HAS GROWN TROUBLING, THOUGH.
IF WE ARE DISMISSED FROM CAPTURING THE HAWK...
...THERE IS A SLIM CHANCE WE WILL BE SHOWN UP BY THE ARMY...
THE HAWK WILL NOT BE CAUGHT EASILY BY THOSE DIMWITTED SOLDIERS.
SO LONG AS WE KEEP OUR EYES ON THE PRIZE, OUR CHANCE WILL COME.
BUT STILL...
...WHAT A GRIM SIGHT.

NOT ONLY WITHIN THE CASTLE...
...BUT THE WHOLE OF THIS CITY...
...REEKS OF BLOOD AND DEATH...
...AS IF IT'S ONE GIANT CURSED ALTAR.
WITH THE CITY LOST IN FOG...
...THE SOLDIERS WERE RUMORING THAT HORRORS WERE PROWLING ABOUT.
HARDLY.
NO, I CAN'T MAKE THAT ASSERTION.
WAS IT TRULY PROPER, THOUGH...
...TO ENTRUST THE FATE OF OUR CLAN...
...TO THAT DREAD EMPEROR?
DON'T SAY IT.

RESTORATION TO THE EMPIRE HAS BEEN OUR CLAN'S DEAREST WISH FOR CENTURIES.
IF WE LET THIS CHANCE SLIP, WE WILL CONTINUE TO PASS ON TO OUR DESCENDANTS BITTER, AIMLESS DAYS SPENT WANDERING FOREIGN LANDS.
I SPOKE UNWISELY.
ENOUGH.
...INDEED...
BUT...
...THE GREAT EMPEROR GANISHKA ...
...IS A "DREAD EMPEROR."

*FX GREEEE
ギィィィ

!
THIS PILE HAS GROWN EVEN HIGHER.
A...
A HORDE OF MEN ENTERING A LADY'S ROOM WITHOUT NOTICE... IS THAT NOT IMPOLITE?!
THROW HER OUT FOR A TIME.

UN-HAND--!
PRINCESS CHARLOTTE!!
ANNA...!!
HM...
I PRESENTED YOU WITH A FULL SET OF EMBROIDERY TOOLS AS A MEANS OF DIVERSION...
...BUT AT THIS RATE YOU MAY DO YOURSELF MORE HARM THAN GOOD.
IT'S NO WONDER, THOUGH...
...THAT ONE WHO IS A PRISONER WOULD FIND COMFORT IN SUCH PIECES OF CLOTH.
...
SO...
...HAVE YOU PREPARED YOURSELF, THEN...
...PRINCESS?
P...
PREPARED...?

IT OUGHT TO BE OBVIOUS.
TO BEAR MY CHILD.
THIS TOO IS COMMON IN WAR.
YOU SHOULD KNOW THIS, AS PRINCESS OF A KINGDOM.

YOUR ESPOUSAL OF MY LINEAGE ENABLES THE RULE OF MY EMPIRE TO SPREAD TO THIS LAND WITHOUT FURTHER USELESS CONFLICT.
DO YOU WISH TO BE PRINCESS OF A RUINED KINGDOM, WHOSE FOLLY MASSACRED HER PEOPLE?
I...
I...
...DO NOT UNDERSTAND...
...SUCH THINGS ...
GRASP
IT IS NOT AS THOUGH I WAS BORN OF A BEAST.
I'VE GIVEN YOU AMPLE TIME, SINCE THE ROYAL CITY FELL, TO PREPARE FOR THIS DAY.

ビリィッ
*RRRRIP
ドサッ
*THUD
ドクンッ
*BATHUMP
……
……
!!
ドクンッ
*BATHUMP
ドクンッ
*BATHUMP

N...
NOOOOO!!
LORD GRIFFFIIITH!!

GRIFFITH...
SHE SAID...?
WHAT'S THIS... ?!

IT'S THE HAWK ?!
NEVER !!
THIS GIRL...
...IS THE HAWK'S LOVER ?!

HUH HUH HUH ...
INTER-ESTING.
ZHA
!
HIGH-NESSSSS !!
CONQUERING THIS KINGLESS KINGDOM IS SIMPLE, BUT I'VE GROWN A BIT TIRED OF WAR.
I THOUGHT HAVING THAT YOUNG GIRL WOULD PROVIDE ME WITH SOME ENTERTAINMENT...
...BUT WHO KNEW SHE HAD SOME CONNECTION TO THE HAWK?

THE APPEARANCE OF THE HAWK.
IT SIGNIFIES THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE WORLD.
THE REINCARNATED KNOW THAT INSTINCTIVELY.
AND CLEAVING TO THE HAWK IS SURELY PARAMOUNT FOR US INHUMANS.
IT IS LIKE DRAWING NEAR TO AND BEING EMBRACED BY GOD.

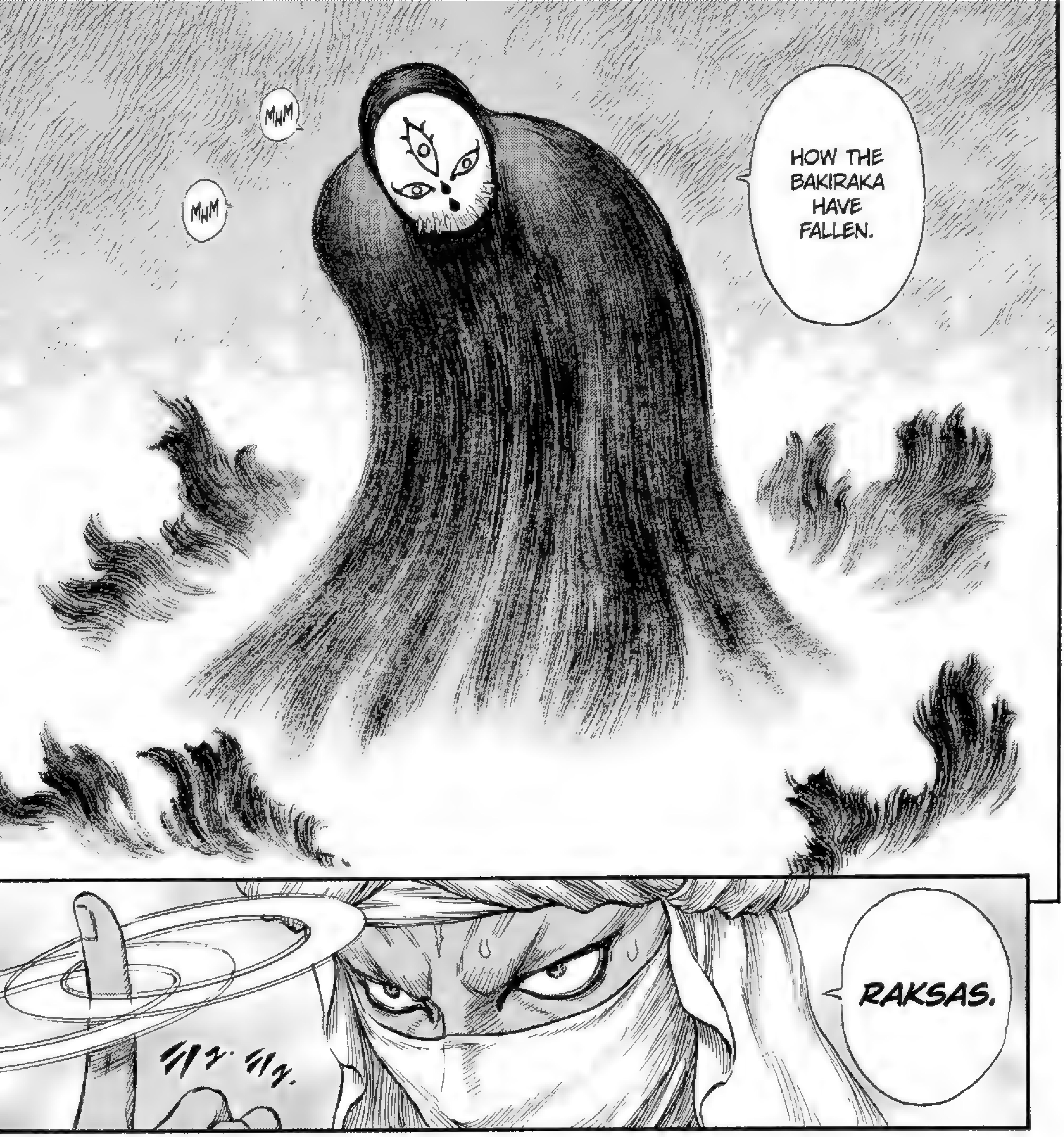
BUT I AM THE GREAT EMPEROR...
...OF THE KUSHAN EMPIRE.
I CONTROL THE VASTEST TERRITORY IN THE WORLD.

I WON'T RELINQUISH IT. EVEN IF IT'S BLOOD-SMEARED AND DEFILED...
...THIS WORLD BELONGS TO ME.
I'LL REIGN OVER THIS UNCLEAN WORLD AS A DEMON KING...
...AND REBEL AGAINST GOD.

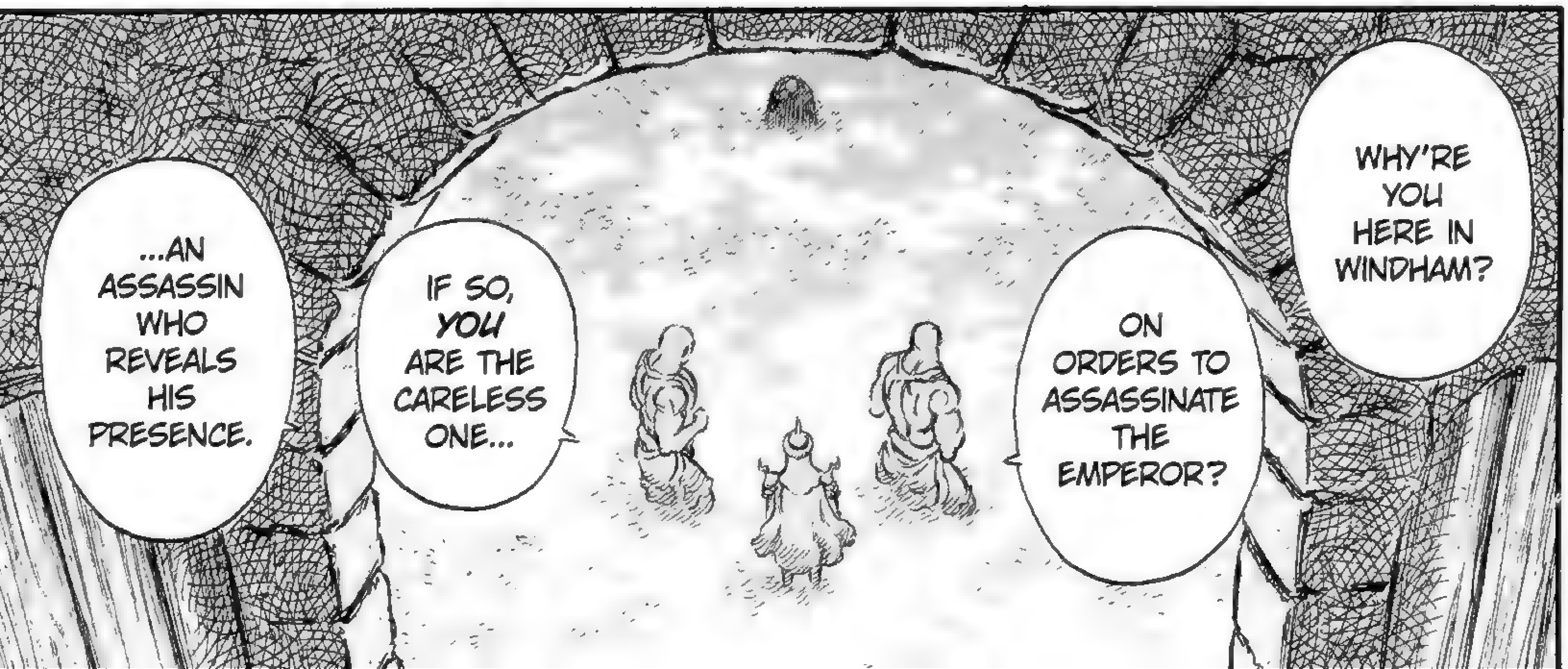
WAIT.
INTRUDERS!!
*SHP
*SHP

THE DAKA 鬼兵(ダーカ)
*SHHP
*SHMM

*VYNN
*FX: SHRLLL
*FX: ZHHP
*FX: SHAP
*FX: FWASS
SNUCK UP ON SO EASILY.


HOW THE BAKIRAKA HAVE FALLEN.
MHM
MHM
RAKSAS.
シッ シッ

*FX: SHH SHH


WHY'RE YOU HERE IN WINDHAM?
ON ORDERS TO ASSASSINATE THE EMPEROR?
IF SO, *YOU* ARE THE CARELESS ONE...
...AN ASSASSIN WHO REVEALS HIS PRESENCE.

THAT'S NOT WHAT I'VE COME FOR TODAY.
ド・ドド・ドド
*FX: DMDMDMDMDM
WHAT'S-- ?!

THE BAND OF THE HAWK ...!!
FWMM
DM
DM
DM
DM
DM
DM
HEH
IF YOU'RE GOING TO TALK BIG...
...DO IT *AFTER* YOU'VE STOPPED ME.
FOLLOW HIM!!

REPORTING, SIRE. INTRUDERS INSIDE THE CASTLE.
I KNOW.
COURTEOUSLY ENTERTAIN THEM.
*AIIEEE
*NOOOO
*BLASSSH
I NEVER EXPECTED A DIRECT ATTACK WITH THOSE NUMBERS.
WHAT POWER HAS THE BAND OF THE HAWK...?
I WONDER...
...HOW FAR INTO MY DEMON CASTLE THAT POWER WILL LAST.

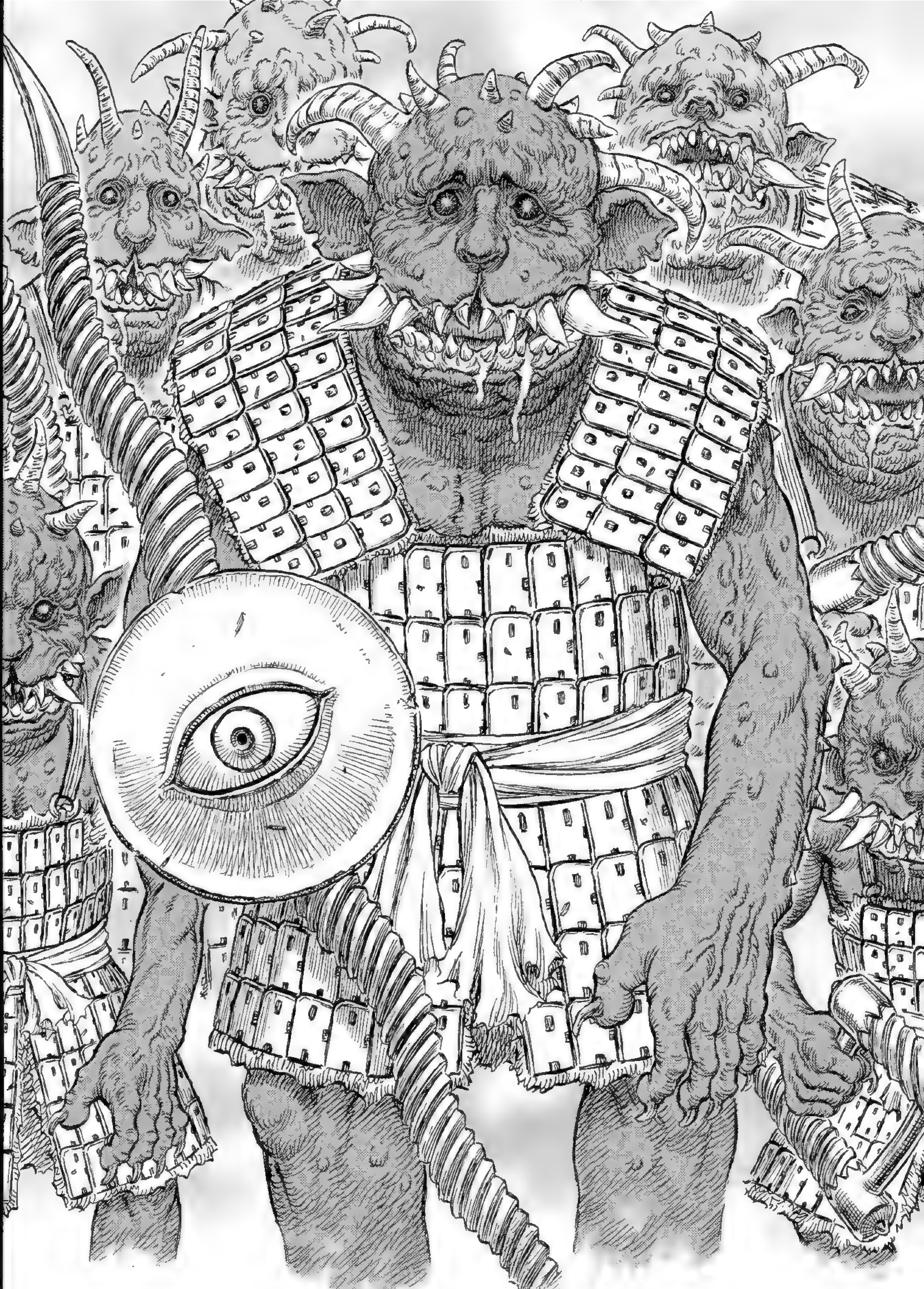
*THWIP
*THWIP
*THWIP
*THWIP
*THWIP
*SWOTT

*GDINNG
*MRRRR
*ZHNK
*FX: TAK TAK TAK
*FX: SHHHHH
*KRRRR
*FX: THK THK THK
*BDADUMP BDADUMP BDADUMP
*AHHH
*AHHH
*AHHH

ドドドド
*DMDMDM
カシャアア…
*GSHANNNG
ドカッッ
*WHAM!!

グチャ ドチャ
*FX: CHALP CHALP
ガガガガ
*FX: BDADUMP BDADUMP
SO INDEED, HUMAN SOLDIERS...
...ARE NO MATCH FOR INHUMAN OPPONENTS.
LET THEM FACE THE *DAKA.*
LURE THEM TO THE RETRENCHMENT.

ガ" ガ" ガ" ガ" ガ"...
*BDADUMP BDADUMP
ALL HANDS, HALT.



*FX: HHHH HHHH
ギギ
*FX: NGEEE
WHAT ARE...
DAKA.
!
SOLDIERS LIKE DEMONS FROM HELL I BORE THROUGH SECRET ARTS.
I AM LOCUS, CAPTAIN OF THE BAND OF THE HAWK'S LANCERS.
*GCHAK
I PRESUME YOU TO BE HIS MAJESTY, THE GREAT EMPEROR?

I AM INDEED THE GREAT EMPEROR GANISHKA OF THE KUSHAN EMPIRE.
WELCOME TO MY DEMON CASTLE, VALOROUS SOLDIERS OF THE HAWK.
BUT NO MATTER HOW SUPERIOR EACH OF YOU IS AS A WARRIOR...
...INVADING THIS CASTLE WITH YOUR NUMBER IS TOO RECKLESS.
I CAN ONLY TERM IT FOOLHARDINESS.
OR IS THE ORDER OF THE HAWK...
...TO GAUGE MY POWER?
I ASK THIS NOT AS A MAN...
...BUT AS AN APOSTLE.

WHY DO YOU...
...OPPOSE THE MASTER?
GUH
GUHAHAHAHAH...
SO SAY YOU...
...KNAVE.

I AM THE EMPEROR.
KING AMONG KINGS.
I AM THE ONE AND ONLY FUNDAMENTAL IN THIS WORLD OF FILTH. TO TAKE THAT FROM ME, IT WOULD BE PAID FOR IN BLOOD.
I HAVE TRAMPLED MORE BENEATH ME THAN ANY OTHER IN THIS WORLD.
EVEN IF IT BE BY GOD COME DOWN TO EARTH, THERE IS NO ESCAPING THIS FACT.

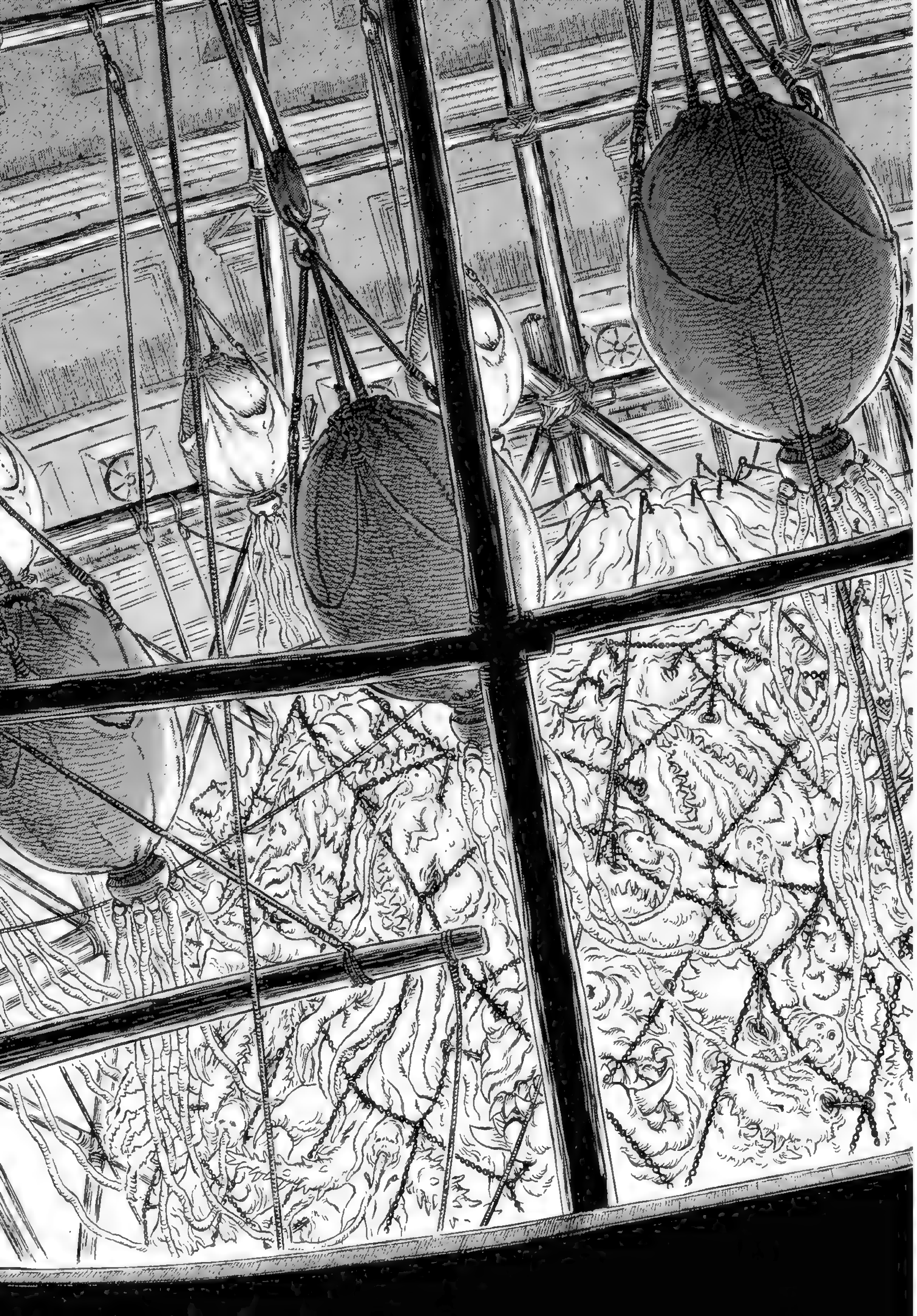
NO...
WITH MY OWN BLOOD-DRENCHED HANDS...
...I WILL TAKE AND DESECRATE GOD.
コォォォ・・・
*HONNNN
ムゥゥゥ・・・
*MRRRRM

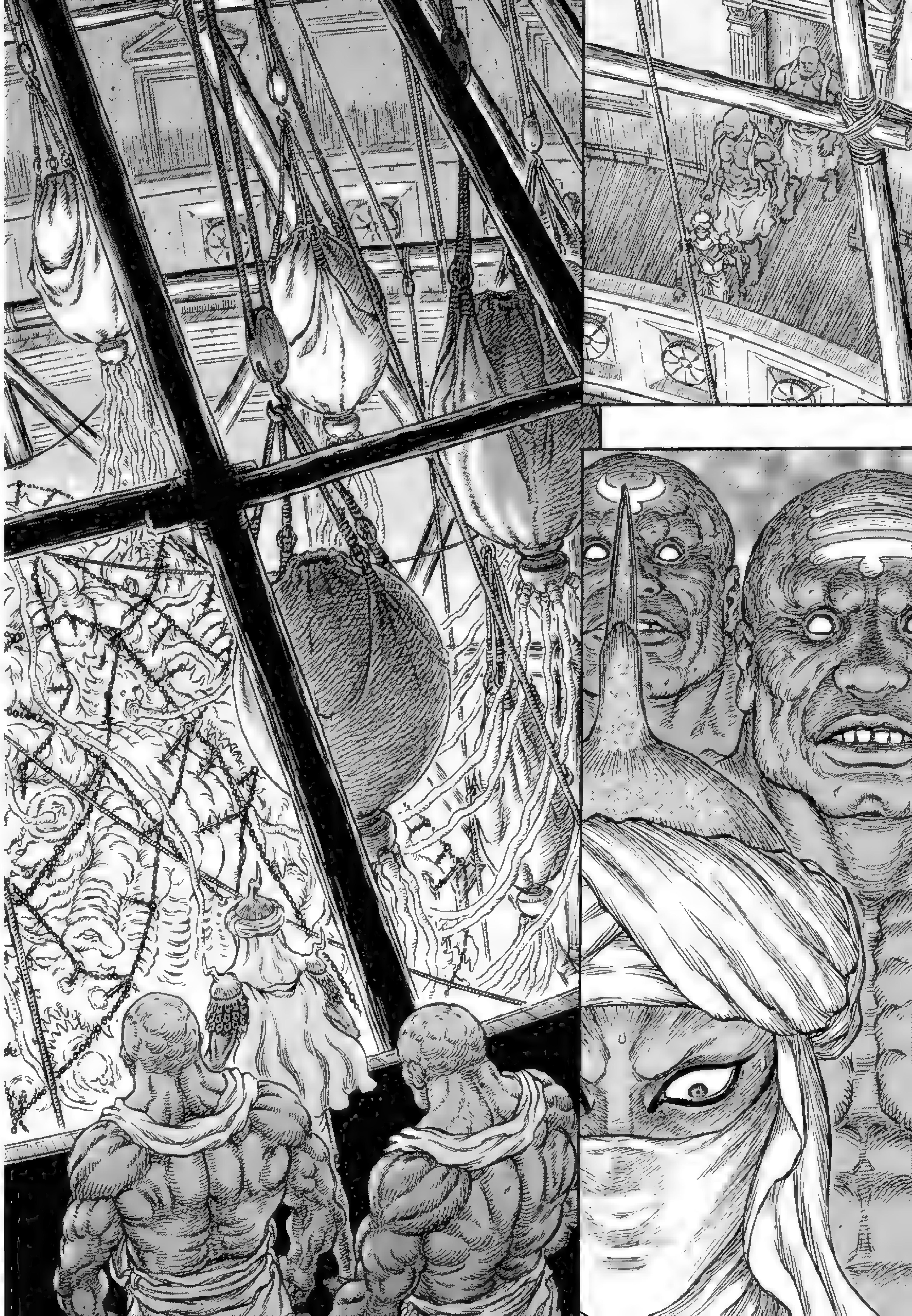
*BZHHHN
DON'T FLATTER YOURSELF.
FOOL.
GO ON, HAVE AT ME!
WHOOM

HEH
HEH
DEMON KNIGHTS
魔騎士

....
...IS HE LURING US?

WHAT IS THIS PLACE?
WAIT.
!





*KULPULP
ドクンッ
*KULPULP
ドクンッ
*KULPULP
ドクンッ
*KULPULP
ドクンッ
ドクンッ
ドクンッ
ゴポッ
*GOLP

*FX: KULPULP KULPULP

WH...
WHAT'S THIS...?!
*GUPP
AIIEEEE!
!
NOOOO!

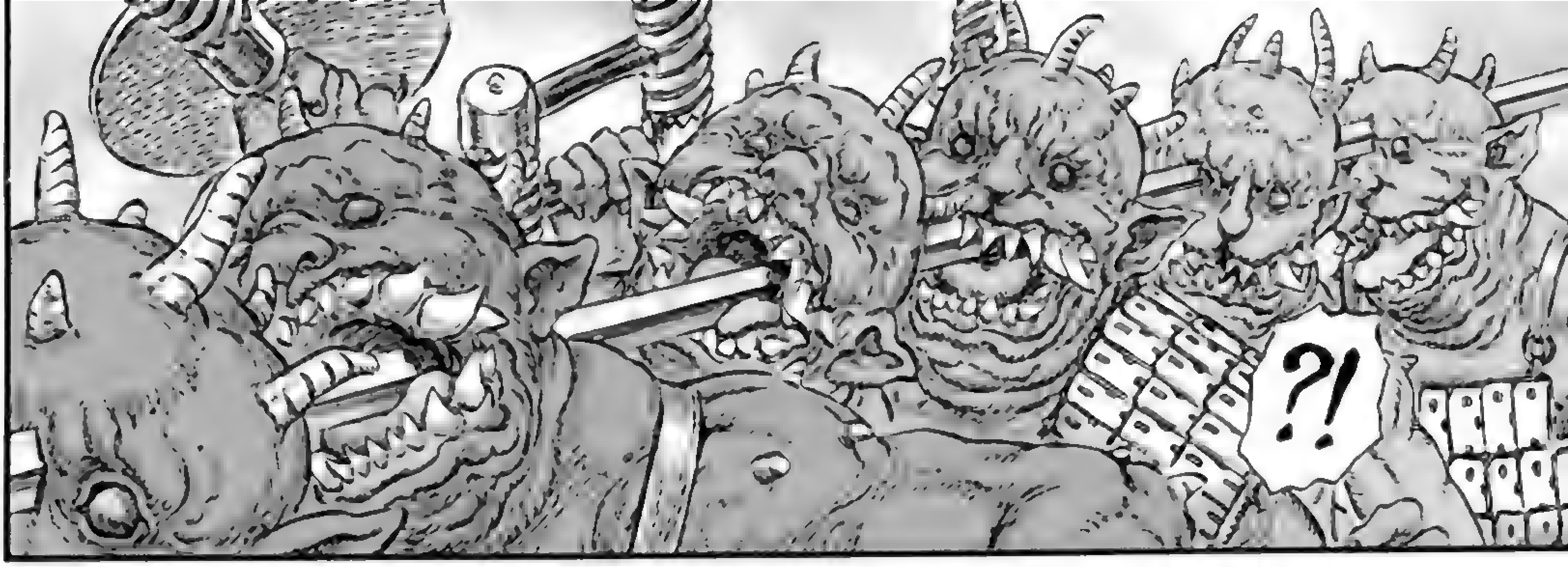
ザザ!!
*SPLASSH
ゴボボ…
*FX: GLLLB
ググ‥
*FX BULGE
ズ
*ZHF
*SHRRIP

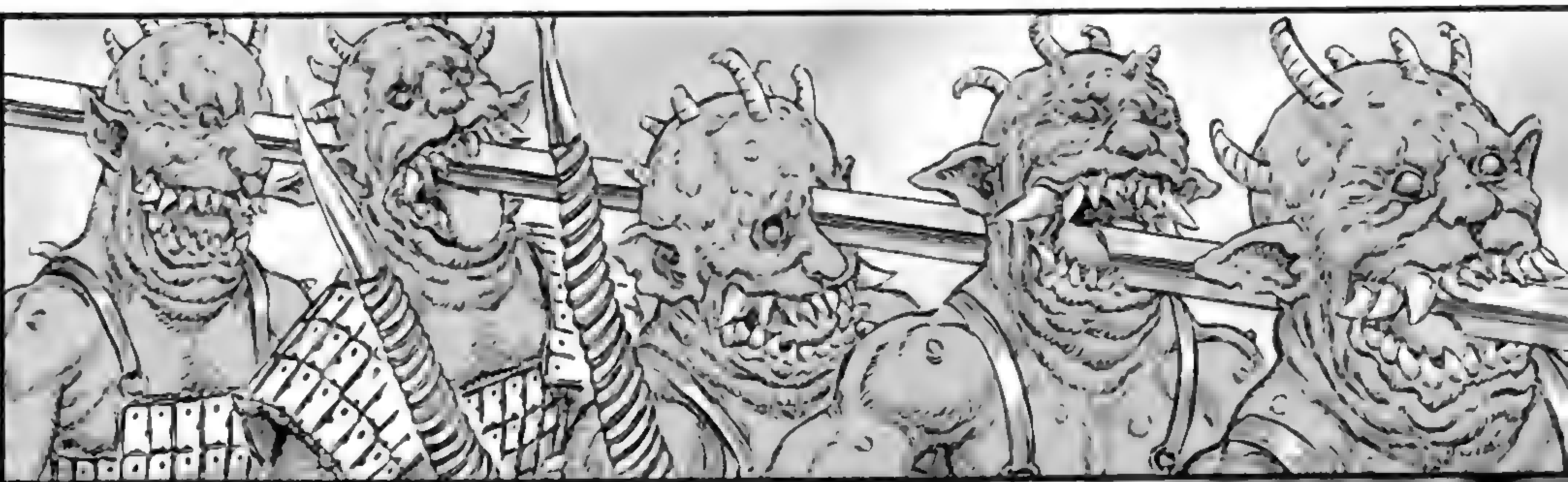
ビシャアア…
*FX. BLISSSH
ヴギィィィ…
*VNGEEE
ヴギィィィ…
*VNGEEE
キリ キリ
*FX: KREEE KREEE
NOOO
ギィ
*NGEE
ギィ
*NGEE
ILLICIT …
… SORCERY ?!

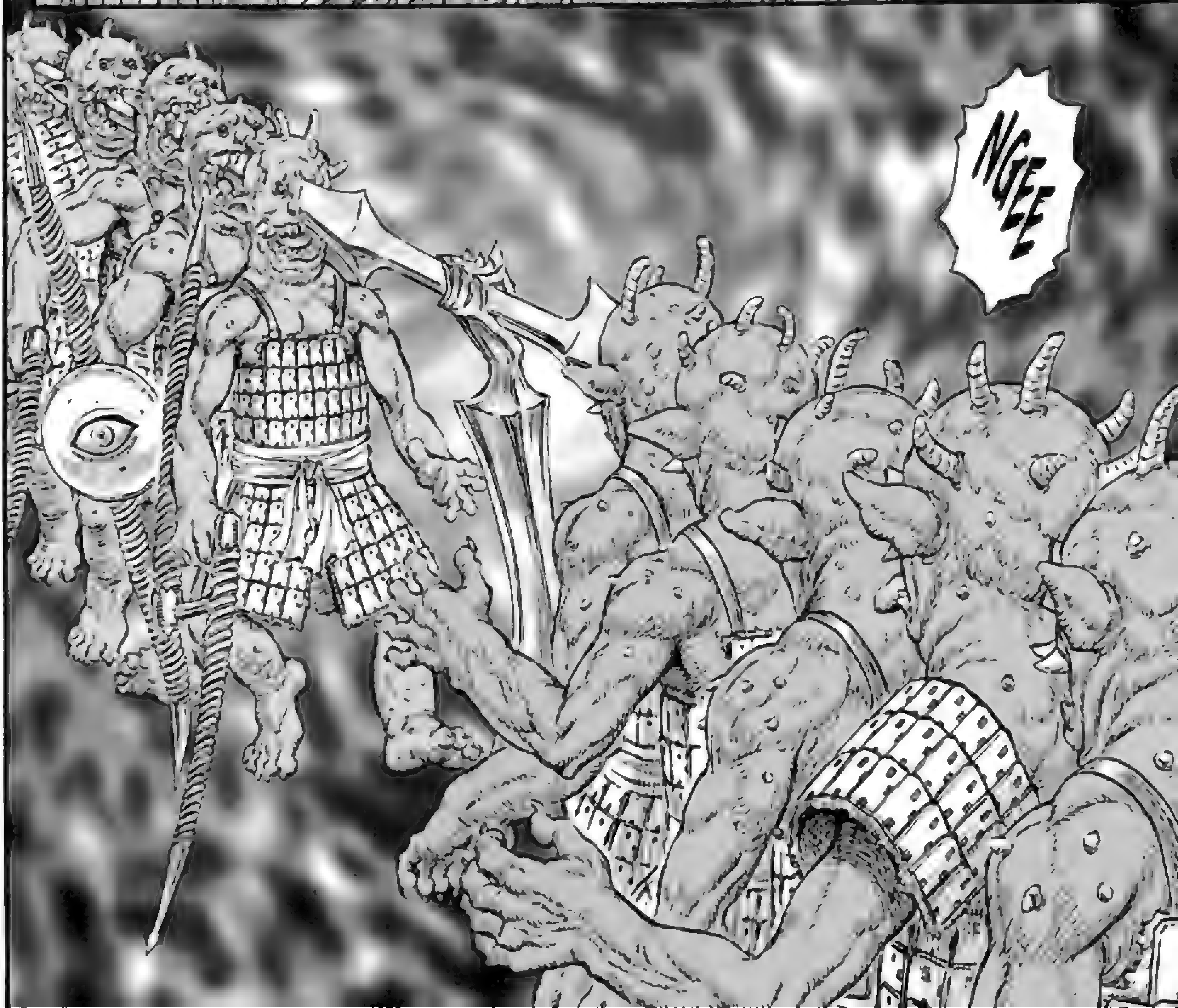
OF COURSE.
THEY'RE USING *APOSTLES* TO BIRTH *DEMONS.*
MHM
MHM
INTERESTING.
THOSE APOSTLE BODY INTERIORS ARE LINKED TO THE BEYOND...
THEY'RE PATCHED TOGETHER, STILL ALIVE, AND FILLED WITH AMNIOTIC FLUID...
WHEN PREGNANT WOMEN ARE SUBMERGED...
IGHHHH

...THE OFFSPRING ARE *INFUSED* WITH EVIL...
...AND DEMON CHILDREN ARE BORN.
RAKSAS... JUST HOW...?
WHAT DO YOU KNOW?!
MHMHM...
WELL, NOW...
I'LL TELL YOU THIS ONE THING.
THE ONE WHO IS YOUR KEEPER...
WAIT...!
...HE'S TRULY A DEMON KING...
...NOT A MAN.

!
WHO GOES ?!
TCH!
THE DREAD EMPEROR...
WHAT HAS HE DONE?!
DOES THIS MEAN...
...HE'S OPENED THE GATES OF HELL?!
ドキュ...
*KULPULP


?!




NGEE

*TWIRL
*SHMP SHMP
*FX: SHMP SHMP
*THUD
*THUD
*DSSH
HOHH...
*FX: VYMMMMM

A CREATURE CLAIMING BOTH ARMOR AND HORSE.
THE ATTIRE, I'D SAY, OF A *DEMON KNIGHT.*
DO NOT THINK THAT THESE RANK AND FILE...
...STAND TO SLAUGHTER US WAR DEMONS.
*VNNNNN
*FX: SHLUK
*FX CHUSSH
*DOOSH
*OHNNNNNNN

BAND OF THE HAWK WAR DEMON LANCERS...
...FORWARD!
*FX: GRIN
*FX RAISE
*SHFF
*SHFF
*DSSSH
*KRUNNK
*VNGEE NGEE NGEE

AOOORN
CERTAINLY A FITTING SPECTACLE FOR THIS DEMON CASTLE.
A DEMON DINNER PARTY.

DEMON GOD
魔神

BERSERK

DO MY EYES...
...DECEIVE ME?!

ゴゴゴゴ
*BRRRMMM
HELL HAS...
... FLOODED OVER...
GREAT EMPEROR!!

I'LL TELL YOU THIS ONE THING.
THE ONE WHO IS YOUR KEEPER... HE'S TRULY A DEMON KING, NOT A MAN.
DEMON...
...KING?!
ス
*LIFT
*ZWWWN

バラ *KDUNK
バラ *KDUNK
バラ *KDUNK
バラ *KDUNK
THAT KNIGHT CALLED *LOCUS.*
SUCH SPLENDID FIGHTING FORM.
HE'S DESERVING OF HIS COMMAND OVER THIS UNIT OF THE BAND OF THE HAWK.
BUT...
ゾロ *SWARM
ゾロ *SWARM
...HOW LONG CAN HE FIGHT AGAINST THIS MANY...
...DAKA AND PISHACA?

KNIGHTS OF THE HAWK!
SHOW ME YOU CAN BREAK THROUGH THIS LINE AND DEAL ME A BLOW!

*VNN
*FX: SHRRRRRL
FUTILE!
*FWOHM

IMPERTINENCE!
BWOOSH
?!

HEED MY WORDS, PYGMIES...
SO PROUD OF WHAT LITTLE EVIL YOU HARBOR WITHIN YOU...
...FEEL THE TOUCH OF *TRUE* POWER!

バチッ
*KRAK
ビジッ
*ZZZT
*BOOM
ヴワッ
*WHOOSH

ゴォォ
*RORRR
ブス
ブス
*FX. SSSSSS
…
…
!!
A DEMON KING! NO...
THE POWER OF A DEMON GOD...
ALL WHO ENTER THIS DEMON CITY ARE LIKE INSECTS WRITHING IN THE PALM OF MY HAND.
YOUR PUNY GOAL WILL NOT BE ACHIEVED.
OBEY ME AND SURRENDER NOW.

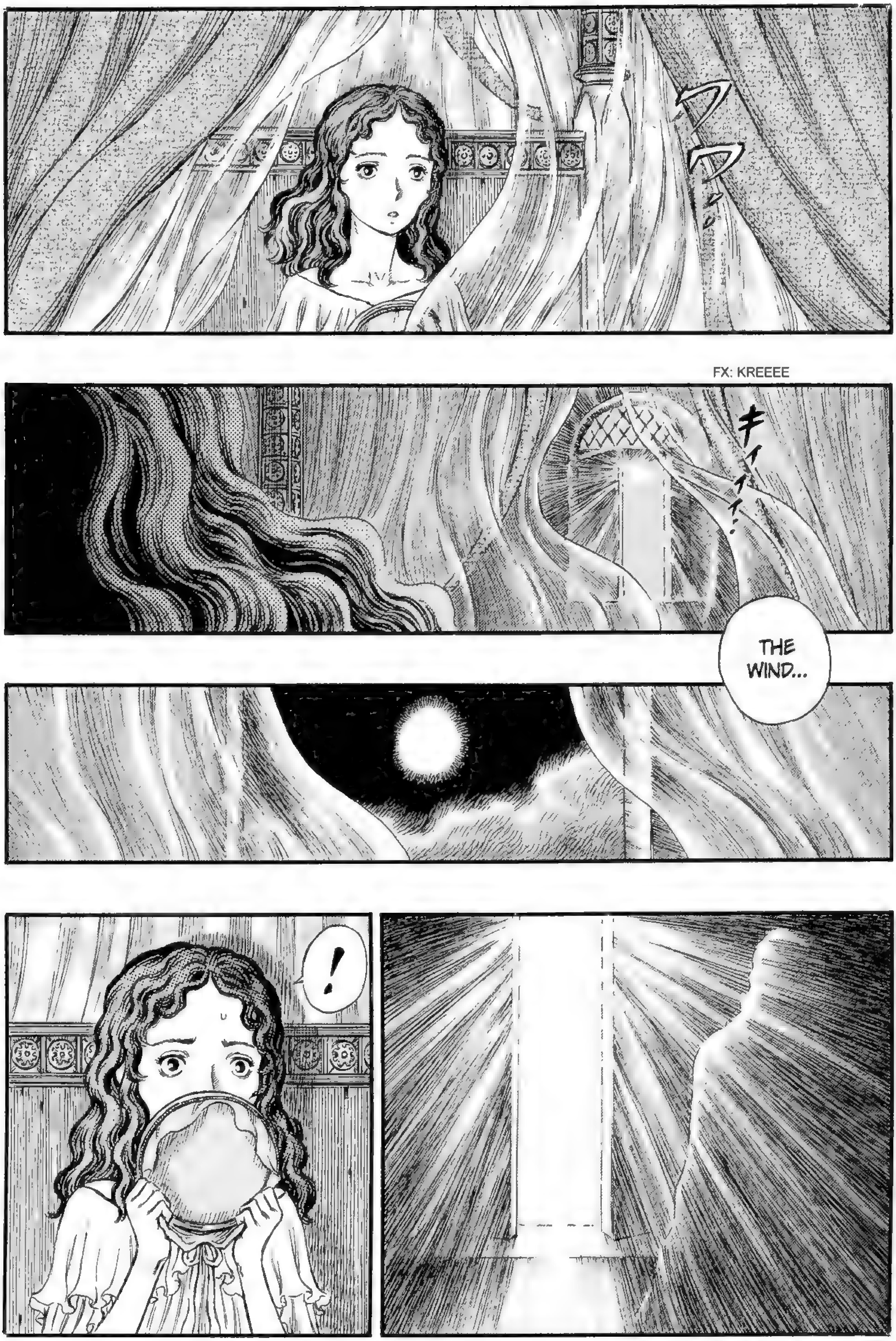
ARE YOU...
...SURE ABOUT THAT?
A FUTILE RETORT.

THUNDER.
MY, MY, WILL IT RAIN?
FOR SOME REASON THE CASTLE SEEMS LIVELY TONIGHT.

......
COME, YOUR HIGHNESS, ANY MORE WILL PROVE HARMFUL.
PLEASE TURN IN FOR THE NIGHT.
WHATEVER HAPPENS, I, AT LEAST...
...WILL NEVER LEAVE YOUR SIDE.
HIGH-NESS...
HAVE A GOOD NIGHT.
......

*FX: PTAP

*FX: BTAM


*FX: FWSSS

FX: KREEEE

ワワッ
キィィィ
THE WIND...
!

WH... WHO?
......

THE SLEEPING PRINCESS AWAKENS

眠り姫の目覚め

BERSERK

THAT EMBROIDERY IS A WINDOW.
ONE THAT EXISTS TO FREE YOUR SPIRIT FROM THIS TOWER.
ERGO, THIS IS MY ROLE.
......
THE ONE DEPICTED BEYOND THE WINDOW.
IT CAN'T BE.

THOUGH IT BE DISCOURTEOUS...
...I ASK, ONCE AGAIN, YOUR PARDON...
...PRINCESS CHARLOTTE.
LORD...
... GRIF...
...FITH ...

IT CAN'T ...
THIS IS A DREAM ...
A DREAM.
IT HAS TO BE.
OVER AND OVER.
ASLEEP OR AWAKE.
IT'S ALL I THINK ABOUT.
I LOST TRACK OF WHAT WAS A DREAM AND WHAT WAS REAL.
I...
I MEAN, SOMETHING LIKE THIS IS *TOO* MUCH TO SEEM REAL.
LIKE A LITTLE GIRL'S DREAM.
A KNIGHT COME TO RESCUE A CAPTIVE PRINCESS.
EVEN *I* LAUGH AT HOW CHILDISH THAT IS.
IT'S SO HIGH UP HERE.
I MEAN...
I MEAN...
BENEATH THE MOONLIGHT...
...YOU'RE JUST LIKE...

BUT PLEASE ...
...I BEG YOU...
...DON'T DISAPPEAR...
...LIKE THAT TIME...

THE PRINCESS WHO PRICKED HER FINGER WITH THE NEEDLE FELL INTO A DEEP SLEEP.
THERE WAS A STORY LIKE THAT.
IS THIS PAIN...
...A DREAM...

...OR NOT?
ピク
*TWITCH
SO WARM...
NO...
IT'S NOT.

THE PRINCESS...
...JUST *NOW* WOKE UP.
LORD GRIFFITH...!

HEY! HER HIGHNESS IS CALLING YOU!
HIGHNESS?
WHAT IS IT, HIGHNESS?
ANNA!
NEVER MIND, JUST PUT THAT ON!
?
GET ON THE BED!
LISTEN WELL, ANNA!
WHATEVER HAPPENS, CLING TO THE BED AND DON'T MOVE FROM IT!
WHAT IN THE WORLD...? I KNOW, YOU MUST HAVE HAD A SCARY DREAM, AND SO...
I DO NOT KNOW, BUT LORD GRIFFITH SAID TO STAY LIKE THIS!
THAT HE WOULD TAKE US FROM HERE!
HUHH?
ギュ
YES...
THAT MUST HAVE BEEN VERY NICE.
あ

*FX: FWAHH

*FX: CLING

NO MORE SLEEPING.
THIS IS NO DREAM.
GDASSSH
ガガアァッ!..

*THRUST
ALL FORCES, WITHDRAW!
*DM
*DM
*DM
*DM

?!
WHAT ARE THEY UP TO?!
BOR-KOFF.
KOFFFF
DSSH
DSSH
KOFF
KRONK
...!!
BMBM
KOFF KOFF
BMBM

ドドドドド
ゴ
ゴゴゴゴ・ゴ・ゴ・
ズズズズ‥
ガァァン‥
ドドドド‥

*FX: DOOSH

*DM *DM *DM *DM

*FX: ZSSSSSH

*FX DOOSH DOOSH DOOSH DOOSH

*GSSSSH

*DMDMDMDM

WHY DID THEY RETREAT?
AND WHY SO SUDDENLY ...?
WITH THAT MUCH CHARGING POWER, THEY MIGHT HAVE BEEN ABLE TO BREACH MY FORCES.
NO, IT'S LIKELY...
SO WHY ...?
IT COULDN'T BE...?!
*FWOMM
*FX: VWAHH

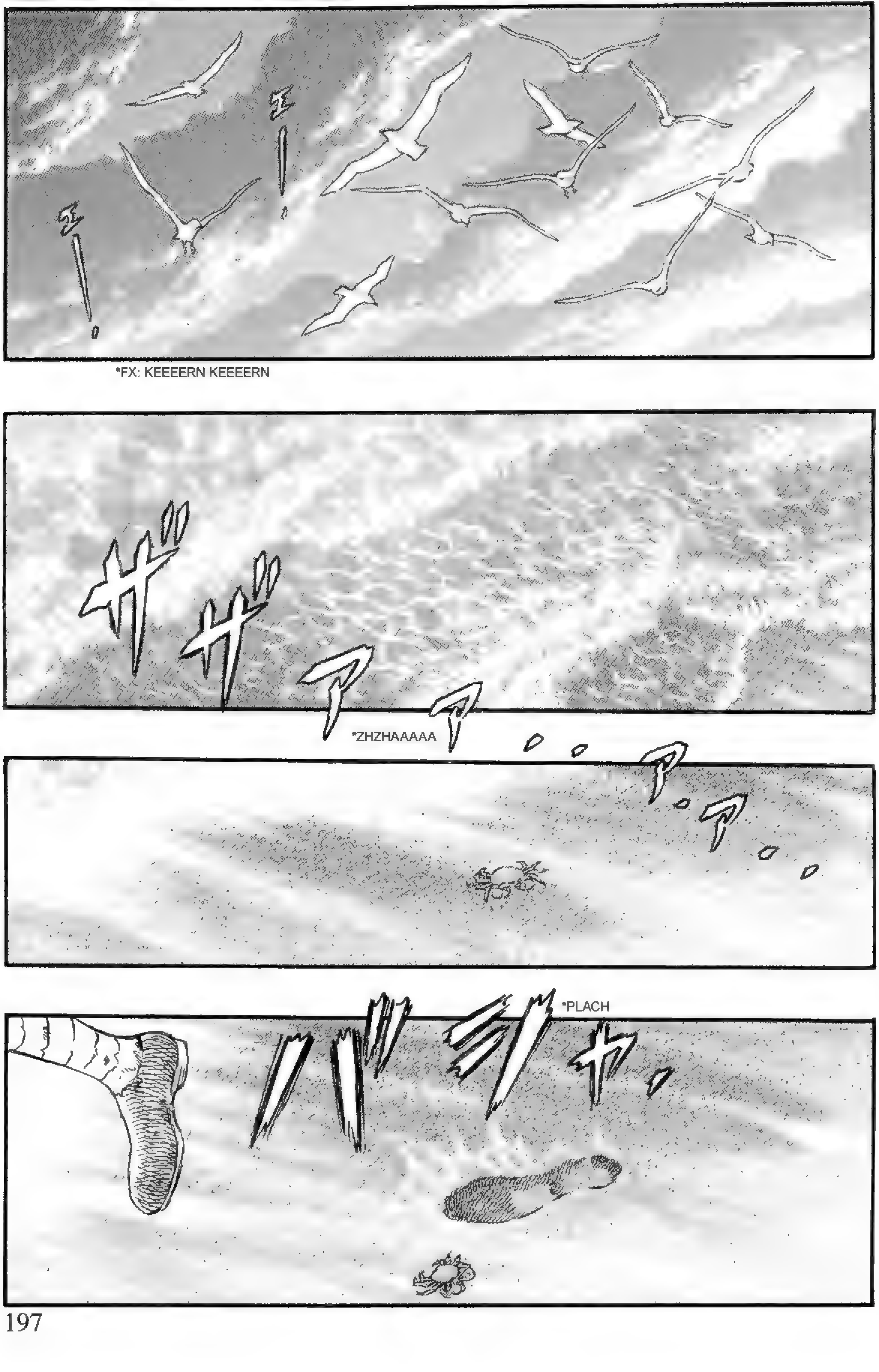
ガラ
*FX. CLATA
DAMN YOU.
*FX· PSSHT
FROM THE SKY, WHERE FOG REACHES NOT...!!
*FX KRAK
YOU DECEIVED MEEEE!!
*KRISSSSH

HIGH-NESSSSS!!
WHAT IS GOING ONNNN?!
I-I DO NOT KNOW EITHERRRR!!
TH... THIS IS...
THIS IS THE SKY!
THIS BED IS FLYING THROUGH THE SKY!!
I MEAN, OH, A DREAM. HOW ABOUT THAT.
WHEWWW
IF THIS IS A DREAM, THEN TO MY HOME, PLEASE, SIR BED.
A DREAM...
YES, TRUE.
THIS IS JUST LIKE...
BUT...

AMIDST THIS DREAM-SCAPE...
...THIS FINGER AT LEAST STILL FEELS WARM.

BERSERK

ファルコニア
鷹都の章　潮騒　THE SOUND OF THE SEA


ミー。
ミー。
*FX: KEEEERN KEEEERN
ザザァァ。。ァ。ァ。。
*ZHZHAAAAA
バシャ。
*PLACH

FREAKIN' HUUUGE!!!

ザブ
*BLOOSH
RAHHH!
ドドオーン
*DOOOSH
ガボ
ゲボ
*BLOCCH
THAT LOOKS LIKE FUN.
DELUGEMON
I UNDERSTAND ISIDRO GREW UP IN THE MOUNTAINS, SO IT COMES AS NO SURPRISE.
WHAT A CHILD, GETTIN' WORKED UP JUST SEEIN' THE SEA.
IT'S JUST A BIG PUDDLE!
AND IT'S STICKY AND STINKS LIKE SALT.
RIGHT, SCHIERKE?
RIGHT, SCHIERKE?!
EH?
!
ザァァァ
*ZHZHAAAAA

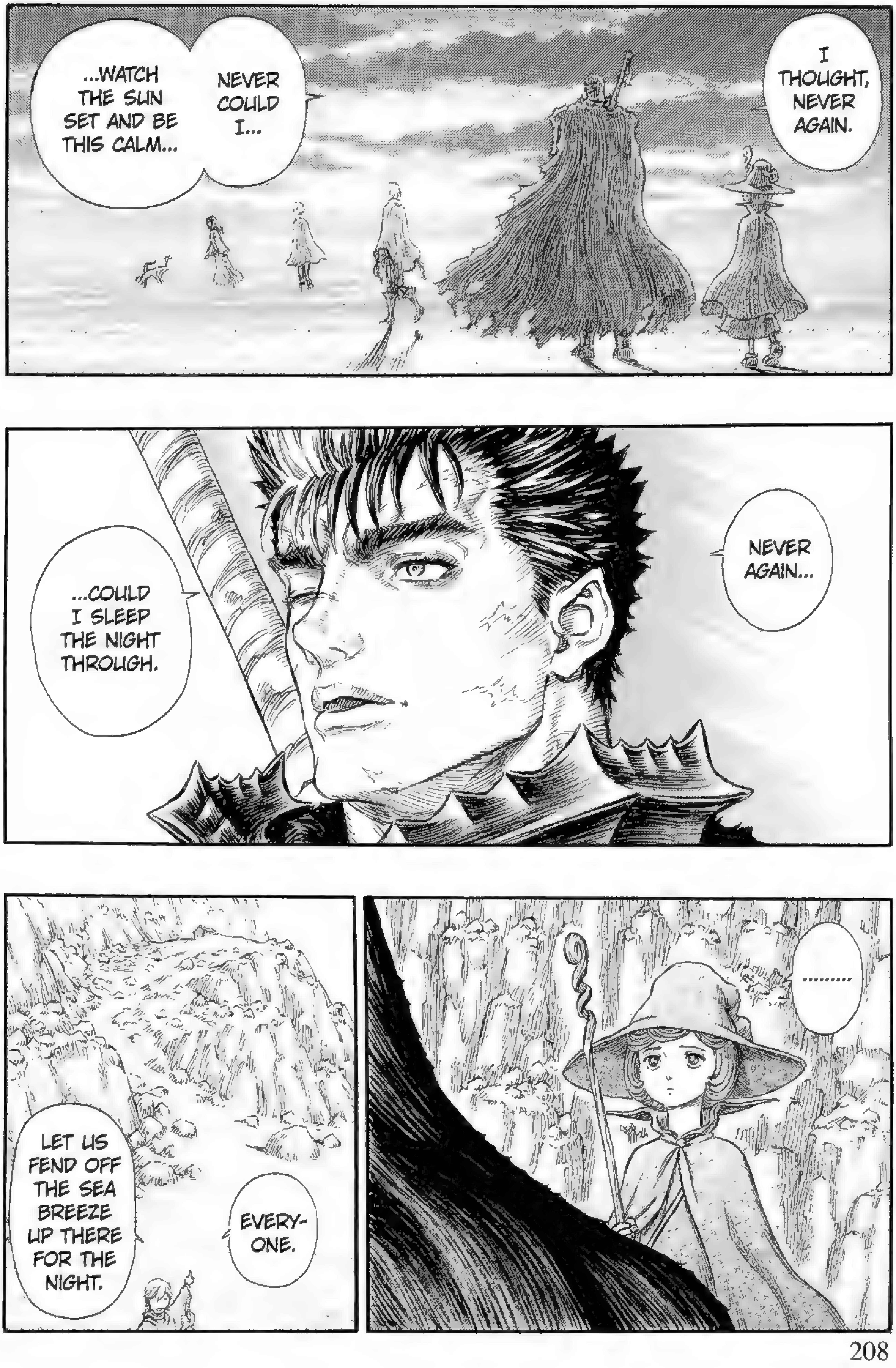
THANKS.
WHAT'S GOT YOU SO DISTRACTED?
....
GUTS.
UH...
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
?

MY BODY'S NOT ALL THAT DELICATE. DON'T WORRY.
BUT...
...YOU REALLY...
...SHOULD TAKE OFF THE ARMOR...
...AND REST FOR AT LEAST FOUR OR FIVE MORE DAYS...
THE TALISMAN YOUR MISTRESS CARVED INTO THIS ARMOR...
...AND CASCA'S NECKLACE...
...PROBABLY WON'T LAST FOREVER AS SUBSTITUTES.
I'VE ALREADY BEEN LAID UP ALMOST A MONTH. WE CAN'T WASTE ANY MORE TIME.
THE PAIN DEFINITELY DOESN'T FADE AS MUCH AS IT DOES WHEN I'M FIGHTING, BUT STILL, THANKS TO THIS THING, OUR JOURNEY WON'T BE DELAYED.
EVEN THE WOUNDS'RE A LOT BETTER THANKS TO YOUR STRONG MEDICINE AND THE *BUGS.*
WHADDA YA MEAN, "BUGS" PLURAL?! DON'T LUMP ME WITH THAT CHESTNUT RUNT!

DO NOT BE NEGLIGENT. THAT ARMOR IS CURSED... YOU COULD END UP GOING BERSERK IN BATTLE AGAIN...
IT APPEARS!
YOU'RE SO MEAN.
BUT NOW I'VE GOT A RELIABLE MAGIC USER.
......
*STICKY CLING
べたべた
WE'RE BOTH ELVES HERE. HAVE SOME STICKY CLING, EVIL AIRHEAD-ED-ED-ED.
AHHH, STICKYYYY!
BUT...
...I KNOW IT'S RASH.
IT REALLY WAS DREADFUL AFTER THAT BATTLE.
THE ARMOR ATE INTO HIS BODY FOR DAYS, UNABLE TO BE REMOVED, AND THE BLEEDING CONTINUED...

WHEN WE FINALLY REMOVED IT, THE SHARP PAIN MADE HIM REPEATEDLY SLIP IN AND OUT OF CONSCIOUSNESS.
EACH TIME, THE WOUNDS WOULD AGAIN OPEN.
NO MATTER HOW ROBUST HE IS, IF A MERE HUMAN IS TO EXCHANGE BLOWS WITH THOSE MONSTERS...
...FOR THAT HE MUST, AS A HUMAN, BECOME A MONSTER. BUT...
THAT TIME IN QLIPHOTH... IF SOMETHING LIKE THAT HAPPENED AGAIN...
NO, EVEN NOW HIS SURVIVAL'S NOT GUARANTEED...
I DON'T KNOW IF THIS IS REALLY THE...
THIS IS NICE.

UH?
......


I THOUGHT, NEVER AGAIN.
NEVER COULD I...
...WATCH THE SUN SET AND BE THIS CALM...
NEVER AGAIN...
...COULD I SLEEP THE NIGHT THROUGH.
....
EVERYONE.
LET US FEND OFF THE SEA BREEZE UP THERE FOR THE NIGHT.

パ
*FX: PLEP
HE'S LOST WEIGHT
CAN HE STILL SWING THAT SWORD?
LOOKS GOOD WHAT IS IT?
BOUILLABAISSE-STYLE SEAFOOD NABE.
YOU HAVE MADE PROGRESS, BUT YOU STILL MUST NOT PUSH YOURSELF.
YEAH, I FEEL A LOT BETTER.
I LIE. THE WOUNDS HAVEN'T CLOSED MUCH ON THIS JOURNEY.
HE SHRIVELS UP DAILY
BE THANKFUL
IN ADDITION, IF THE SEA BREEZE BLOWS OVER HIM... DESPITE IT BEING NIGHT, HE WON'T BE ABLE TO SLEEP.

......
THIS IS MY FIRST BOUNTY OF THE SEA IN SO LONG, I WISHED TO PRACTICE MY ART. IS IT TOO SALTY?
NO...
IT JUST REMINDED ME OF THE CUTS IN MY MOUTH.
THIS STUFF'S...
...GOOD.
WHAT'S WITH THAT HAIR, THOUGH?
YEAHHH.
YOU DON'T LOOK LIKE...
...THE BLACK SWORDSMAN *NOW.*
THE *MOSTLY* BLACK SWORDSMAN.
SAY WHAT YOU WANT.
THE *SLIGHTLY* WHITE SWORDSMAN.

'N SO...
...WHAT KINDA PLACE IS YOUR HOMELAND, ANYWAY?
FWUUU
FWUUU
THAT TAKES CARE OF YOUR CLOTHING MAKEOVER FOR NOW. YOUR EQUIPMENT LAYOUT IS NOW ALTERED WITH EASE OF USE IN MIND.
NOT BAD. YOU'RE A HANDY GUY.
IF I MAY SAY...
THESE CRAB AND SHELLFISH CORPSES'RE PRETTY GOOD.
CLAMIBALISM ♡
IT'S BARBARIC.
TASTY, THOUGH...
ELFHELM! A UTOPIA AMIDST THE SEA, FAR TO THE WEST. THE FLOWERS BLOSSOM, THE BIRDS SING, AND THE ELVES DANCE THE DAY AWAY, ET CETERA.
ELFHELL.
IT'S SWARMIN' WITH GUYS LIKE YOU, RIGHT? ELFHELL!
NOT HELL! ELFHELMMM!
I HAVE HEARD OF IT FROM MY MISTRESS.
ON A LEGENDARY ISLAND IN THE WESTERN SEA, AN ISLAND CALLED SKELLIG.
LIKE THE FOREST OF THE SPIRIT TREE, IT BELONGS TO THE INTERSTICE, SO IT IS UNRECORDED IN THAT AREA OF OCEAN, AND REGULAR HUMANS CANNOT REACH IT.
IF IT AIN'T RECORDED... HEY!
SO LONG AS WE HAVE MY ELFIN NAVIGATION.
*BEEP BEEP
YOU MEAN A HOMING INSTINCT.
LIKE A BIRD.

IT IS SAID THAT MANY MAGICIANS LIVE WITH THE ELVES ON THAT ISLAND.
I HAVE ALWAYS WANTED TO SEE IT ONCE WITH MY OWN EYES.
SHOW 'EM YOUR TRUE POWER!
...
WHO ARE YOU TO TALK?
WON'T *THEY* BE THE ONES TREATIN' *YOU* LIKE A BUMPKIN?
THE PLACE YOU LIVED WAS QUITE NICE, BUT PRIMITIVE.
KINDA GROSS, MAYBE?
UM, SCHIERKE.
I HAVE AN...
...EARNEST REQUEST TO MAKE.
...
LA-LADY FARNESE ...
WHAT DID YOU JUST ...?

*FX: CRACK CRACK

WOULD YOU...
...BE WILLING TO TEACH ME MAGIC?
....
WHOA, THERE...
W-WOWWW. SO FARNY WANTS TO BECOME A WITCH... WOW.
A SIDE JOB TO BABY-SITTIN'?
HOL...
I HAVE BEEN THINKING ABOUT IT EVER SINCE THE TROLLS!
*FX: CLASP
MY, MY.
Y-YEAH, BUT I DON'T THINK IT'S A GOOD IDEA FOR A GROWN-UP TO BE A DISCIPLE TO THIS LITTLE DUCKLING!
HOLD...
ガシ
UM
YOUR DIRTY DISPOSITION'S SHOWIN' THROUGH, DEAR DISCIPLE.

TO BE HONEST, MY HEART TREMBLED THAT TIME. SO MUCH DREAD... AND EXCITEMENT...
AT ALL THE MIRACLES YOU CAUSED... AT THE ART CALLED MAGIC.
OH MY. ♡
*OPEN/CLOSE
パクパク
AIN'T YOU GOT NO PRIDE AS AN ARISTOCRAT?!
PRIDE ALONE'S NOTHIN'.
IN THIS UNKNOWN WORLD, INTO WHICH I TOOK MY FIRST STEPS...
...I WAS POWERLESS. I JUST HUGGED MY KNEES AND COWERED.
BUT WHEN THE TIME CAME THAT I HAD TO PROTECT SOMEONE, EVEN ONE SUCH AS I...
WHAT GAVE ME THAT COURAGE...
...WAS CASCA, AND...
...THE MAGIC DAGGER I GOT FROM YOU!
BUT... THAT IS JUST A SILVER KNIFE, SO...
IT'S KINDA STARTIN' TO SOUND LIKE FLATTERY.
EVERYTHIN' SHE SAYS IS EXAGGERATED.
TO ME, THE DAGGER WAS *UNDENIABLY* MAGICAL.
R...
RIGHT...
SPOOKY EYES!!

FLORA SAID...
...ACCEPT THE GREAT MYSTERIES...
...AND EXPLORE THE ENTIRE UNIVERSE FROM WITHIN YOUR WORLD.
THAT IS THE WAY OF MAGIC.
IF THERE IS A LIGHT OF REASON THAT ILLUMINATES THE UNKNOWN DARKNESS...
...THEN PLEASE, I ASK YOU TO IMPART IT TO ME.
THIS IS NO SHOW.
HEY!
ズーン
しっしっ
ムキー
ペロペロ
IT IS SAID THAT MAGIC IS QUITE UNMASTERABLE IF ONE...
...CAN REMEMBER A TIME WHEN THEY DID NOT STUDY IT.
THAT IS BECAUSE, MORE THAN ANY OTHER REASON, AS A PERSON AGES, THEY BECOME BOLIND BY THE WORLD VIEW...
...OF THE PHYSICAL WORLD BEFORE THEIR EYES, AND THOSE PREJUDICES BECOME HARDER TO ABOLISH.

*FX: UHHHH

*FX: SEETHE *FX: SHOO *FX: LICK

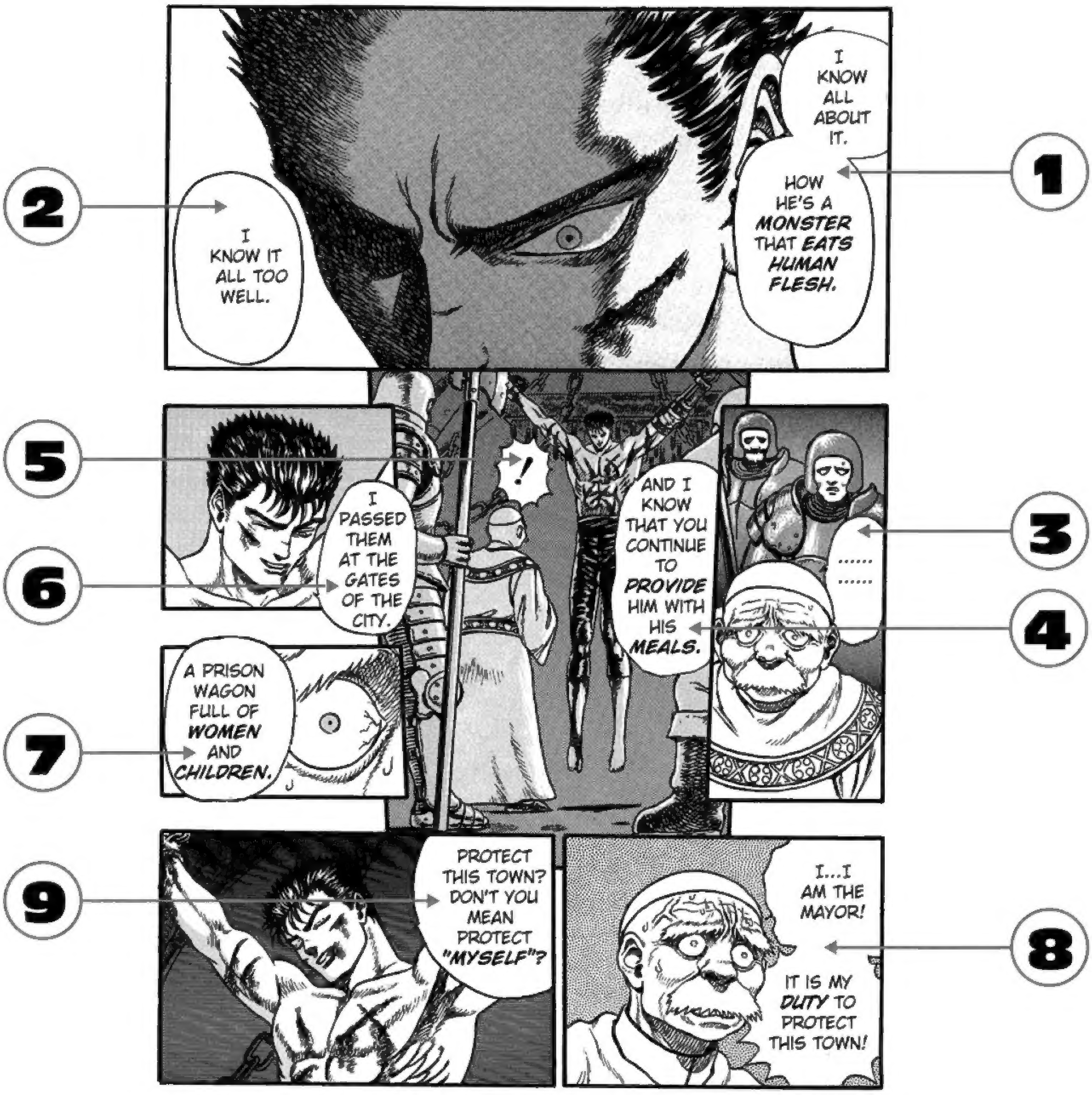
BUT...
...YOU HAVE BEEN THROUGH SOME THOROUGHLY DREADFUL EXPERIENCES...
...SO THAT DOES NOT SEEM TO BE A CONCERN.
I AM STILL IN TRAINING MYSELF, BUT I THINK I CAN AT LEAST TEACH THE BASICS.
THANK YOU SO MUCH!!
THIS IS SO EMBARRASSING
TEACHER!!
BY DEFAULT, THAT MAKES YOU MY SERVANT. ♡
I WANT A DISCIPLE OBEDIENT LIKE THAT.
T-TEACHER...
ZWAGGHHH!
L-L-LADY FARNESE... W-W-WITCH...
THE WITCH HUNTER, A WITCH.
MUM...
...BLE
SO, RIGHT TO SPELLS.
QUICK!
FIRST, A FOUNDATION.

BERSERK

STOP

This is the back of the book!

This manga collection is translated into English but oriented in right-to-left reading format at the creator's request, maintaining the artwork's visual orientation as originally published in Japan. If you've never read manga in this way before, take a look at the diagram below to give yourself an idea of how to go about it. Basically, you'll be starting in the upper right corner and will read each balloon and panel moving right to left. It may take some getting used to, but you should get the hang of it very quickly. Have fun!


1
I KNOW ALL ABOUT IT.
HOW HE'S A MONSTER THAT EATS HUMAN FLESH.
2
I KNOW IT ALL TOO WELL.
3
......
......
4
AND I KNOW THAT YOU CONTINUE TO PROVIDE HIM WITH HIS MEALS.
5
!
6
I PASSED THEM AT THE GATES OF THE CITY.
7
A PRISON WAGON FULL OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN.
8
I...I AM THE MAYOR!
IT IS MY DUTY TO PROTECT THIS TOWN!
9
PROTECT THIS TOWN? DON'T YOU MEAN PROTECT "MYSELF"?

COMICS & GRAPHIC NOVELS / MANGA / HORROR

BERSERK

KENTARO MIURA

27

ベルセルク

三浦建太郎

Now equipped with the mystical Berserker Armor, Guts fights on against the dragon form of Grunbeld and his legion of fanatic apostle soldiers. But the very armor that holds Guts together—in a nightmarishly literal sense—might be the last straw that tears his tortured mind apart. While Guts struggles to hold his own against his inner demons, monsters of a very different sort rally in Windham as the Kushan Emperor, Ganishka, and the newly reborn Griffith rally their forces in a head-to-head struggle for control of all of Midland. But when the dust finally settles, there may be little left of the kingdom to claim!

Created by Kentaro Miura, *Berserk* is a pounding manga sledgehammer, a captivating combination of blistering action, brazen horror, and bughouse humor that proves beyond doubt that whom the gods would destroy, they first make *Berserk!*

This collection is translated into English but oriented in right-to-left reading format, as originally published.

DARK HORSE MANGA

FOR READERS 18+
FOR MATURE READERS